

PRESIDENT'S SECRETARY'S FILE:
Diplomatic Correspondence w/ Germany: 1933-38

Christmas
1932

PSF: Germany

For a merry Xmas
and a very happy
New Year I want
to express my
kindest wishes!
We all hope that
the New Year may
bring lots of happiness
and success to
you & everybody
and your great
Country.

Yours sincerely

LOUIS FERDINAND
PRINZ VON PREUSSEN

Detlef Brink

1294
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PSF Germany

[1933?]

LF

Beijing, 3-3-26

Dear Excellency:

Please accept my earliest
thanks for your kind letter
which was handed to me
by Ambassador Dodd.

I was very touched at the
thought that Your Excellency
should find time to write
to me in spite of your
tremendous work.

I am indeed very anxious
to pay another visit to
the United States. There is
a chance for me to move
over in March or April.
I would of course be very

happy if I could pay you
my personal respects on
that occasion.

With my sincerest wishes
to you & all your family
I remain as always
yours very truly
John Trebilcot

[Second son]

Prince Louis Ferdinand, eldest son of the former
Crown Prince of Prussia []

[See Daily Times April 10 1936 p. 1215]

March 12, 1938. *✓ Verified*

Memo to Johnson, Acting Sec. of War
attaches memo sent to Chief of Staff
in re-Humored attempts by German and Italian
Nations to obtain certain concessions in Mexico.

SEE--Louie Johnson folder-Drawer 1--1938

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March 16, 1938.

Memo to President
From Sumner Welles

Enc. memo of talk he had with the German Ambassador
on March 14, 1938.

SEE--Sumner Welles folder-Drawer 1--1938

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Dear Mrs. Roosevelt =
This is
to be mailed -

MISS SCHUYLER NELSON WARREN

Speyer has
written to
you about -
me - Mrs -

day -
Appleton and
Alice Warren

47 EAST 65TH STREET

PSF:

NY 4-1141

March 28, 1938.

Dear Mrs. Warren,

Of course I deeply appreciate your feelings in the matter in regard to Dr. Schuschnigg. I also feel that anything that could be done should be done.

On the other hand, I am quite sure that the State Department is fully aware of the present situation in regard to Dr. Schuschnigg and that in line with the President's recent statements, he desires to offer every assistance to those who are seeking to leave Austria that representations have been made through American and other National representatives in Vienna looking to the release of Dr. Schuschnigg.

I send this to you my
Dear as it is interesting
& shd be kept

PSE : Gouverneur

1148 Fifth Avenue
New York City

March 26, 1938

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I am writing with regard to a matter which a German Catholic priest, a certain Father Reinhold, told me about a few days ago, and which may appear as important to you as it does to me. Father Reinhold was exiled from Germany in 1935 and formerly lived in Hamburg. He is both a cultivated and intelligent person, and is now a professor at Portsmouth Priory, near Newport, which is a Benedictine foundation.

Father Reinhold told me that the former Austrian Chancellor - Schuschnigg - is, according to the press, a prisoner of the Nazi Storm Troopers, in the Belvidere Palace, Vienna, and that his son is held as a hostage for his father. The fear is that Dr. Schuschnigg will either be assassinated or imprisoned in a concentration camp for a long period of time.

Father Reinhold is a friend of Dr. Schuschnigg, having been a fellow-student of his at the University of Innsbruck many years ago, and regards him highly. He believes that if informal re-

presentations could be made by the American Government to Baron Neurath, the President of the German Government's Advisory Council on Foreign Affairs, that Dr. Schuschnigg might be released and allowed to leave Austria. In the case of Bruening, the former German Chancellor, who likewise was a prisoner and in danger of his life, informal representations were made by the British and French Ambassadors in 1933 to Baron Neurath, and which resulted in Dr. Bruening's release, permitting him to escape in 1934. This incident was related to Father Reinhold by Dr. Bruening himself.

In consequence Father Reinhold believes that if the situation concerning Dr. Schuschnigg could be brought to the Administration's attention without agitation or publicity of any kind, Dr. Schuschnigg's safety and release might be obtained by means of an informal and friendly application to the German Government.

Since Father Reinhold is unable to act in this matter I am taking the liberty of writing to you about it, with the hope that if you thought it wise it might be brought to President Roosevelt's attention.

With kind regards, and thanking you in advance for anything you may be able to do in this matter,

Sincerely yours,

Alvin C. Warren

Germany
April 29, 1938.

Confidential Telegram from Wilson--Germany

To Cordell Hull

In re-Helium

Attached letter from Cordell Hull to President
and copy of his letter to Sec. of the Interior,
copy of Sec. Swanson's letter to Sec. of Interior
and copy of Sec. Woodring's letter to Sec. of Interior.
All dealing with the exportation of helium.

SEE--Hugh Wilson-Foreign file-Drawer 2--1938

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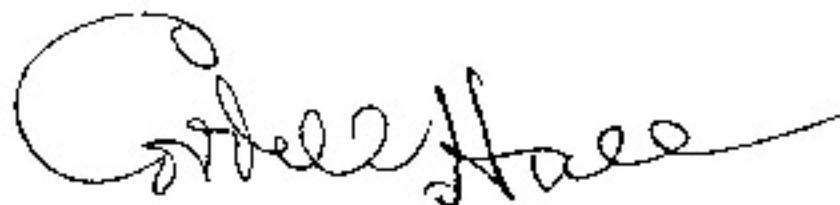
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

May 9, 1938.

My dear Mr. President:

I enclose, for your information, a copy of a letter in regard to the exportation of helium which I addressed on May 6, 1938 to the Secretary of the Interior, and copies of letters on the same subject addressed to the Secretary of the Interior by the Secretaries of War and of the Navy on April 27 and 29, respectively.

Faithfully yours,



Enclosures:

1. To the Secretary of the Interior, May 6, 1938.
2. From Secretary of War, April 27, 1938.
3. From Secretary of the Navy, April 29, 1938.

The President,

The White House.

1294

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington

In reply refer to
CA SII.659 Helium-American
Zeppelin Transport, Inc./76

May 6, 1938

My dear Mr. Secretary:

I acknowledge the receipt of your letter of April 16, 1938, in reply to my letters of March 15 and April 5, in regard to the proposed sale of a quantity of helium for export to Germany.

I am not interested in the commercial exploitation of helium but solely in carrying out the duties relating to the exportation of helium delegated to me by the Helium Act, and, in the case of the particular proposed shipment to Germany to which your letter refers, in avoiding, if possible, any action on the part of this Government which might unnecessarily jeopardize American interests in Germany or give rise to any well-founded charge of bad faith on our part.

You are correct in your understanding that I do not concur in the proposal that, in connection with the proposed sale of helium for exportation to Germany, one-half million dollars be fixed as the amount to be stipulated in a surety bond required under one of the amendments to the "Regulations Governing the Production and Sale of Helium". As I intimated in my letter of April 5, there does not appear to be a necessity for the imposition of any bond whatsoever.

As you have requested my opinion in this matter, I may add that the Regulations Governing the Exportation of Helium Gas, which were approved on September 3, 1937, by the National Munitions Control Board and the authorized

representative

The Honorable
Harold L. Ickes,
Secretary of the Interior.

representative of the Department of the Interior as required by the provisions of the Helium Act, appear to me to provide ample safeguards of the nature of those which the amendments to the sales regulations are apparently designed to afford. Moreover, these amendments would appear to impose unnecessarily onerous burdens upon prospective purchasers so that their application might operate to defeat the intent of the Helium Act in respect to the advancement of commercial aviation by airships and the policy of this Government as indicated by the letter signed by the Secretaries of State, War, the Navy, Commerce, and the Interior which was transmitted by the President to the Chairmen of the Military Affairs Committees of both Houses of Congress with an expression of his approval; by the granting of an allotment of 17,900,000 cubic feet of helium to American Zeppelin Transport, Incorporated, with the unanimous approval of all the members of the National Munitions Control Board and the Secretary of the Interior, as required by the provisions of the Helium Act; by the action of the Department of Commerce in approving the proposed schedule of flights by the LZ-130; and by the action of the Navy Department in leasing terminal facilities at Lakehurst for that airship. In view of these facts, would it not seem that these amendments are both unnecessary and undesirable?

Furthermore, these amendments might be held to constitute an encroachment on the jurisdiction of the National Munitions Control Board as that jurisdiction is defined in Section 4 of the act. The effect of the amendments would apparently be to control, and perhaps even to prevent, the exportation of helium although the responsibility for the control of exportation rests, under the terms of the act, upon a group of six Cabinet officers rather than upon one alone.

You may agree with me that it would be advisable to submit the question raised by this apparent conflict of jurisdiction to the Attorney General for his decision. If, however, you find, after further consideration, that my position in regard to this matter is well founded, it is possible that you may wish to recommend to the President that the amendments be rescinded.

The letters addressed to you by the Secretaries of War and of the Navy on April 27 and April 29, respectively, would appear to confirm in full the statements referred to in my letter addressed to you on April 5 to the effect that "safeguards already provided by the Helium Act and by the export regulations issued thereunder would seem to be

sufficient to preclude the necessity of a provision for liquidated damages" made orally by the experts on lighter-than-air navigation designated by the Secretaries of War and of the Navy to advise the Secretary of State in the carrying out of his duties as Chairman of the National Munitions Control Board.

In regard to the safeguards against the misuse of helium excreted from the United States contained in the Helium Act itself and in the export regulations issued thereunder, I may point out that it is not proposed that the total quantity of helium which has been allotted to American Zeppelin Transport, Incorporated, be exported at one time. The allotment contemplates exports of helium extending over a period of one year and the gradual exportation of the helium is assured by the requirement that a series of export licenses for partial shipments be obtained from the Secretary of State in accordance with the schedule of exports which was submitted under oath with the request for the allotment. This schedule of exports was carefully considered by the military and naval experts designated to advise the National Munitions Control Board. They took into account various factors such as the quantity of helium required for the initial inflation of the LZ-130, the probable loss during operations of the aircraft as a result of dissipation of helium through the walls of the aircraft, the necessity of occasional valving to offset excess buoyancy, and available facilities by which such losses may to some extent be obviated. The object of this study was to determine whether the proposed schedule of exports was limited to those quantities of helium which would be sufficient only for initial inflation and required test flights, current needs for reinflation after each flight, and a reasonable reserve for emergency losses.

Should any attempt be made to use the LZ-130 for purposes other than those specified in the request for allotment, or should there be any reason to suppose that there was any disposition on the part of the German company or the German Government to put the airship to any uses other than those specified, no further export licenses would be issued under the allotment, all outstanding licenses would be immediately revoked, and with the unavoidable dissipation of the helium already on hand the operations of the airship would necessarily have to be discontinued in short order or hydrogen substituted for helium.

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All the evidence which has been obtained directly by this Department and all the evidence transmitted to me as Chairman of the National Munitions Control Board by the War and Navy Departments indicates definitely that neither Deutsche Zeppelin Reederei, G.m.b.H., nor the German Government has any intention whatever of using any of the helium to be exported under the allotment mentioned above otherwise than for the inflation of the airship LZ-130 in commercial operations between Germany and the United States.

I have examined the memorandum prepared by Mr. Richard C. Horne, transmitted to me with your letter. I venture to suggest that, in evaluating any statements made by Mr. Horne in regard to the exportation of helium, it should be borne in mind that he is the Washington representative of All-American Airways, Incorporated, a company which proposes to develop lighter-than-air navigation in the United States and apparently entertains the hope that competition by foreign companies may be forestalled. I have no further comment to make in regard to Mr. Horne's memorandum.

I am transmitting copies of this letter to the President and to the members of the National Munitions Control Board for their information.

Sincerely yours,

CORDELL HULL

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In reply refer to
G-4/16494-69

G-4
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April 27, 1938.

The Honorable,

The Secretary of the Interior.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of April 16, 1938, concerning the foreign sale of helium for airship inflation.

It is noted that you are unable to determine what relation the amount of liquidated damages proposed in the joint letter of the Secretaries of State, War and Navy, of March 15, 1938, and confirmed in the letter of April 4, 1938, from this Department, bears to the amendment to the regulations governing the production and sale of helium which was prepared by your department. The amendment in question, although of direct concern to the War Department, was not referred to this Department prior to its adoption. Had the Department been consulted in the matter, it would have advised against the inclusion in a commercial contract, for reasons substantially as stated in the letter of April 4, 1938, any features which sought to control military operations by the exactation of a forfeitable cash bond. Being faced with an accomplished fact which placed a certain responsibility upon the Secretary of War, it was felt that that responsibility could best be met in the manner stated in the above mentioned joint letter of March 15, 1938.

It is the opinion of this Department that the intent of the Congress by its passage of the Helium Act was that helium, a natural commodity of which the United States has known resources greatly in excess of its own domestic needs, should, for humanitarian reasons, be made available to other nations for commercial uses. Certain features were included in the Act which were designed to safeguard the interests of the National Defense and prevent any helium which might be exported under the Act from being used for military purposes. At the time the Act was being considered by Congress, the War Department carefully examined those safeguarding features and deemed them satisfactory for the purpose. The chief safeguard in this respect is the responsibility placed upon the National Munitions Control Board to determine whether or not exported helium is to be used

Again, the military value of lighter-than-air craft of all kinds depends upon the situation of the nation wishing to use them. Lighter-than-air craft have little offensive value. In the opinion of this Department their operation under European conditions, in close proximity to anti-aircraft artillery and within easy range of high performance shore based aircraft, would be fraught with risks that would outweigh the possible advantages that might be gained.

In more direct response to the questions raised in the third paragraph of your letter:

First - It is hardly possible that 10,000,000 cu. ft. of helium could be used for military purposes in Europe. If it were so used, the resulting performance of lighter-than-air craft would not be as effective as that obtainable with hydrogen, and since this quantity of helium would be rapidly dissipated, it is not probable that helium would be used in any European military operations.

Second - if helium were used for military purposes, it is doubtful that it would result in saving the value of any lighter-than-air apparatus. Helium is not known to have saved the cost of any lighter-than-air apparatus as distinguished from saving the lives of people carried.

Third - it is difficult to appraise the value of military observation balloons containing 10,000,000 cu. ft. of helium because no nation has seen fit to employ helium in observation balloons, largely because of the difficulties and expense of delivering helium to the balloons and because so doing would reduce the performance of observation balloons to a point below that obtainable with hydrogen. The value of military balloons, regardless of what is used to inflate them, is a moot question on which the Navy Department is not the best authority. So far as naval operations are concerned, observation balloons are entirely obsolete. The use of helium in barrage type balloons, such as are reported as being con-

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considered by certain European nations for protective purposes, seems impracticable because the altitude obtainable with such balloons with helium is much reduced over that obtainable with hydrogen.

To sum up, it seems apparent that there is no military value in helium itself. It all depends upon how it is employed. As to the quantities of helium, herein discussed, the military value of helium to a European nation would be insignificant. The problems of maintaining a supply of helium for war purposes is so great that no nation has ever seen fit to base military plans solely on helium. For military use, hydrogen is superior.

The memorandum transmitted with your letter has been examined. As to the accuracy of its quotations, a reading of the entire testimony, from which these quotations are partial extracts, will show the inconsistency of the memorandum with the full testimony. In regard to foreign building of lighter-than-air craft for military purposes, the Navy Department has no information that indicates that any European power is building such craft for military purposes. It is reported that there is some construction of small commercial airships in Russia, and that this country is endeavoring to develop recently discovered sources of helium. How accurate these reports are cannot be definitely stated.

In considering the allocation request, the experienced airship personnel of this Department found that the quantities requested were in accordance with accepted airship practices. In this connection, it is pointed out that of the total quantity allocated, only such portions as are actually necessary will be shipped abroad. Moderate reserve supplies of helium are required both at the foreign and the United States terminals, but these reserves are to be progressively supplied, and under the stated schedules of shipments, would probably never exceed about 2,000,000 cu. ft. at either terminal. At the expiration of one year's operations the expectation is that there would remain in captivity only the 7,000,000 cu. ft. of helium in the airship, the remainder having been used at the rate of 3% to 5% per month, plus 3% to 6% per trans-oceanic trip. Any operations of United States airships to foreign terminals would require the placement at those foreign terminals of helium for "topping up" purposes, to the same extent as has been estimated for the contemplated operations of this German airship.

Finally, this Department considers that the reasons which led to the approval of this export allotment in November 1937

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are still applicable, and the quantity of helium therein requested was not then, and is not now, considered to be of military consequence, nor inimical to our national defense.

Sincerely yours,

CLAUDE A. SWANSON

Bon. Harold L. Ickes,
Secretary of the Interior.

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PSM-FKA 4/22/38
1/L14-2(371020)

April 29, 1938

My dear Mr. Secretary:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of April 16, 1938, in further reference to the matter of exportation of helium under the terms of the Helium Act of 1937, Public Law No. 411, and regulations promulgated as extensions of this Act.

The regulations which were considered, and later adopted, by the National Munitions Control Board, and the Secretary of the Interior, and were promulgated by the Secretary of State in September 1937, were referred to the Navy Department for consideration, with special reference to military safeguards. In the opinion of this Department these regulations are adequate to safeguard the interests of National Defense.

Your letter refers to the March 10, 1938, amendments to the January 14, 1938, sales regulations. Prior to the adoption of these amendments, the Navy Department was not consulted.

In attempting to appraise the possible military values of helium, factors are encountered which are impossible to evaluate on a monetary basis. Helium in itself is not any more a military commodity than, say, fuel oil. Helium in the transportational sense is the means of sustentation of lighter-than-air craft. Due to its reduced lifting power, helium actually results in a craft having inferior performance over the same craft if filled with hydrogen. For military purposes hydrogen is, in the opinion of many, superior to helium. If a lighter-than-air craft is pierced by sufficient bullets or bombs, its fate whether helium or hydrogen filled, will probably be the same, except that in the case of helium the risk to human life is considerably less, due to the reduction in fire risk. For commercial air transportation, it is possible to overcome the reduced lifting power of helium by employing a slightly larger airship, and by proper conservation methods, it is possible to operate helium filled airships with no more expense for gas than if hydrogen were used. However, as long as there is only one geographical source of helium supply, the utilization of helium will always be surrounded by the problems and the expense of transporting this gas to the craft which wish to use it. It seems inconceivable that any nation not possessed with its own sources of helium would base any plane for military operations around a commodity so difficult and expensive to obtain, and so readily dissipated, as helium.

contrary to the intent of the Act.

The military importance that is being attached to helium at the present time is out of proportion to its known military value. Helium in itself is not a weapon but is merely a commodity that possesses certain value when used in connection with certain types of aircraft. In this respect, it is comparable to other commodities such as gasoline when used in connection with bombardment airplanes or tanks. The only known military use for helium is for the inflation of lighter-than-air craft. The military value of such craft, other than possibly that of captive observation balloons, has never been established either in this country or abroad. On the other hand, the military value of heavier-than-air craft has been definitely established. The ever increasing efficiency and wide ranges of use of the latter are causing them to supplant all other means for aerial operations. The War Department has definitely abandoned the idea of employing airships in military operations and the current trend is away from the use of captive observation balloons as recent developments in heavier-than-air craft indicate that such craft may soon be far superior to balloons for observation purposes. The diminishing military value of helium is evident.

In so far as the use of helium is concerned, it must be remembered that the gas does not remain constant in quantity, but, when used to inflate airships or balloons, must be frequently replenished. To assure the continuous operation of these craft, reserve supplies of the gas must be maintained and made available to the craft after each flight. The amount of loss and wastage can be determined for each type of such craft and reserve supplies of the gas provided for accordingly. If helium is to be used in time of war for the inflation of airships, large reserves of the gas must be built up in time of peace. From information now available to the War Department, adequate natural reserves of the gas exist only in the United States. For a nation to build a military program dependent upon a commodity not natural to it or readily available to it in time of war would be contrary to all known military practices.

While hydrogen is highly inflammable and craft inflated with it face the constant danger of destruction by fire, its greater buoyancy gives a craft added lifting power and greater maneuverability. Even though helium is non-inflammable, it is still debatable as to which of the two gases possesses the greater value for military operations. Regardless of the inflating agent, however, lighter-than-air craft are highly vulnerable to gun fire and their destruction is a comparatively easy accomplishment. The mere fact that such a craft might be inflated with non-inflammable helium is no guarantee against its loss.

In view of the above facts, it is not felt that the possession by a foreign nation of a limited supply of helium, with restrictions on the replenishment of losses from that supply, will be an incentive for war or that such possession will constitute a menace to the peace of this or any other country.

The chief use for helium appears to lie in the commercial field. Due to its non-inflammable nature, it offers certain assurances of safety to personnel not found in other agents used for the inflation of airships. It was undoubtedly this humanitarian appeal that aided in the passage of the present Helium Act.

As stated in previous correspondence, the War Department is not interested in the commercial exploitation of helium, but is primarily concerned in protecting the interests of the National Defense. From this viewpoint, it rendered its opinion of the military importance of the proposed exportation of helium to Germany at the time the application of the American Zeppelin Transport, Inc., for an allotment of 17,900,000 cubic feet of the gas was under consideration by the Board authorized by the Helium Act to grant allotments of this commodity for export. It was the opinion of this Department at that time, and remains the opinion, that the subject exportation was not a menace to the peace of this or other nations; that it was not inimical to the interests of our National Defense; that the action of the Board in making this allotment for commercial uses was justified and in keeping with the intent of the Helium Act, and that additional safeguards for its proper use were not necessary.

The following are specific answers to the questions on Page 2 of your letter:

10,000,000 cubic feet of helium could be used for military purposes, but without adequate reserves available, it would not be so used for any appreciable length of time.

If helium were used for military purposes, it would not save from destruction by enemy fire the lighter-than-air apparatus. It might afford a measure of safety to the lives of the personnel on the craft so destroyed.

Depending upon the type of aircraft, the monetary value of the equipment containing 10,000,000 cubic feet of helium might vary from \$1,000,000 to \$4,000,000. Its value from a military point of view is not rated very high by present day military opinion.

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The War Department has no comment to make upon the memorandum, prepared by Mr. Richard C. Horne, McGill Building, Washington, D. C., an attorney representing All American Airways, Inc., which you inclosed with your letter.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) HARRY H. WOODRING

Secretary of War.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

In reply refer to
PR 033.6211 - Prince Louis Ferdinand/2

May 13, 1938

PSF

Germany - 1938

My dear Miss LeHand:

I am enclosing herewith for the President a copy of a despatch dated May 9, 1938, from the American Ambassador at Berlin, transmitting a letter which Prince Louis Ferdinand has written to the President.

It will be noted that Prince Louis and his wife expect to arrive at New York on the steamer Bremen on May twenty-sixth. The Department has already requested the Treasury Department to extend customs courtesies and free entry to Prince Louis and his bride.

Sincerely yours,

G. J. Schenck
Chief of Protocol.

Enclosures:

From Berlin, May 9, 1938,
with enclosure thereto.

Miss Marguerite A. LeHand,

Personal Secretary to the President,
The White House.

1294

Department of State

BUREAU } PR
DIVISION }

ENCLOSURE

TO

Letter drafted 5/18/38

ADDRESSES TO

Miss LeHand

Berlin, May 9, 1938

No. 138

Subject: Transmitting letter from
Prince Louis Ferdinand

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that Prince Louis Ferdinand, son of the former Crown Prince of Germany, has just been married and is about to proceed abroad on a visit to the United States as part of a round-the-world tour that they are making.

Prince Louis Ferdinand has written a letter, which is herewith enclosed, to the President, with whom he is personally acquainted, informing the President, he tells me, of the Prince's arrival in the United States.

I trust that the Department will be good enough to forward the letter to its destination.

Respectfully yours,

Hugh R. Wilson.

Enclosure:
Letter.

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HRW/ha

A true copy of
the signed original
MS. 174

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PS = Germany



HAUS RHEDE
KR. BORKEN
WESTFALEN

5-6-38

Dear Excellency:

I am very happy to announce
that my grandpa has given
Kira and me a trip
around the world as a
wedding present. This trip
will take us of course first
to the United States and
we shall arrive aboard
the Boomer at New York
on May 26th. We plan to

spent about a week in
the area and shall visit
an old friend Mr. Paul May
Bigelow at Malden and
my former 'boss' Mr. Henry
Ford at Detroit. We are
both looking forward
to calling on Mr. Beale
and Mrs. Roosevelt. —
Our visitings at Robt's
and down lane off beant-
fully and it was a great
satisfaction to see the delight
of our parents and my

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Dear Father,
Please write
etc. Pauline
and
older son

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HAUD RHEDA
KR. BORKEN
WESTFALEN

dear old grandpa. - We
are both spending a few
very happy days at the
house of an aunt who
is my godmother.

With many good wishes
and most respectful
regards also to den Rose -
velt may I say "Auf
Wiedersehen" & always
very sincerely yours
Louis Ferdina

PSF Germany - 1938

LF

May 31st 1938

Dear Mr. Ellery:

Before leaving the Hudson-
valley and the hermitage
of my enterprising friend,
Viva and I want to thank
you and your family most
heartily for the lovely week-
end we could spend at
Hyde park. I do not need
to say that the honor and
pleasure were ²²⁴ great.

for we so sweet to
both of us that we entirely
forgot that we were at
the house of the President
of the United States and
not home at Potsdam
many thousands of miles
away. We certainly never
shall forget the Hyde Park
weekend and both take
it as a wonderful expe-
rience for our future life.
We shall continue on

LF

honeymoon trip around
the restless globe with
great gratitude in our
hearts for the unique
welcome we were given
by the President and
his lovely family.

With many good wishes
also from mine I am
always yours very sincerely
Lau ~~the~~ Chin

PSF
Lorraine

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Hyde Park, N. Y.,
October 21, 1938.

MEMORANDUM FOR
THE SECRETARY OF STATE

TO READ AND RETURN

F. D. R.

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Warsaw, October 6, 1938.

My dear Mr. President:

1/

As pointed out in my cable of March 12, (forwarded from Paris Embassy in my behalf by Mr. Wilson, a copy of which is attached hereto) and on the following, among other subsequent occasions (see my cable no. 179, September 13, 8 P.M.; no. 190, September 19, 12 noon, paragraphs 5 and 6; no. 205, September 25, 3 A.M., paragraph 2) my observations had led me to feel (a) that the Western European powers would not go to war over an Austrian Anschluss, nor indeed, over Czechoslovakia, and (b) that while in the latter case they might come right up to the brink of war, Britain and France in the final analysis might conceivably conclude that Czechoslovakia was not the issue over which the democracies should go to war. I subsequently cabled in early September (cable no. 179, September 13, 1938) that my observations from here prompted me to feel we were in for a period of "show-downs, back-downs, let-downs" and increased tension. As it turned out, Europe avoided war this year by the "skin of its teeth".

At this moment, European statesmen are re-examining the positions of their respective states in the light both of the far-reaching events of the past few weeks, and of the potential implications of the Munich conference; and are faced with the question: "After Munich, what?"

Although it has not yet become clear here whether there exists a definite plan for carrying the Munich ground work to a hoped-for formula, looking to durable European appeasement and pacification, I discern distinct signs of renewed British efforts to "play ball" with Mussolini. In fact, confidential reports reaching here today

The President

The White House

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today indicate grounds for hope that Mussolini might favorably consider making a gesture in terms of advancing the time-table of removal of volunteers from Spain as his contribution towards bringing the Anglo-Italian Agreement into operation. Such event would prove a step forward and might serve towards tranquilizing a number of sore spots which have developed in the Mediterranean area during the past few months and which have been eclipsed by the Czechoslovak situation.

Moreover, another ray of hope is attributable to further confidential reports reaching here today that the British Government plans, in event of succeeding in bringing about the operation of the Anglo-Italian agreement, to initiate a move for a "Great Powers" conference. Furthermore, it is intended that while the first meeting might be limited to the major powers, the scope of the conference will subsequently be extended to include other powers.

Meanwhile, there are still numerous issues requiring urgent consideration such as Spain, further minority problems in Czechoslovakia, Palestine, Germany's demands in the colonial domain, et cetera.

Moreover, statesmen in countries east of Berlin, meanwhile stand upon a pile of debris consisting of scrapped alliances, bankrupt system of collective security, Eastern and Central European disillusionment in Western European moral and military support, shattered principles governing conduct of international dealings, and now face a transitional period. Moreover, they are faced, even as are the statesmen in London, with the question as to whether it would be better to "play ball" with Germany, or to build up their respective armed and diplomatic strengths against a potential increase in the scope of Hitler's appetite.

I am personally inclined to feel Hitler's voracious appetite will have been only whetted by his recent gains. Moreover, I am aware that official circles here feel there are as yet no tangible grounds for a belief that Hitler has altered his determination to continue driving eastward and southeastward.

In this connection, one thing is becoming clear in my numerous conversations with Polish officials. That is to

to say, they feel that recent events have shown that the difference in strength between the major powers (particularly of Western Europe) and the lesser powers (especially in event of a combination among certain of them) is not as marked as it was in the pre-war days. Indeed, according to my informants' opinion the Western European powers have shown they are not in a mood to fight. Subsequent analysis shows in effect they feel they have all to lose and nothing to gain. On the other hand, however, the lesser powers who do not enjoy the same extent of economic and territorial contentment, have less to lose and more to gain. This my informants state is the mood in which most of the lesser states east of Berlin are found today. Accordingly, the chances are more favorable for their resisting a German attempt to absorb them today than even before the recent crisis. In fact, my informants feel that these lesser states would henceforth be more apt to come to each others assistance than hitherto.

Until tangible evidence of some practical formula, which might serve to turn the Munich proceedings into a factor for future appeasement and pacification emerges, statesmen in this part of Europe may be expected to regard the current and near future period in the light of an armed truce. Indeed, to my mind, if the statesmanship and diplomacy of Europe fail to conceive of a basis of a satisfactory readjustment and do not succeed in advancing in rapid order a practical formula looking to durable European pacification, I feel that we may expect a rerudescence of tension no later than the early days of March.

As for Poland's position at the moment, signs are becoming increasingly evident of Poland's dissatisfaction over non-inclusion in the Munich conference (see my cables no. 139, November 24, 1937, paragraph 11; no. 53, April 21, 10 A.M., Section I, paragraph 2, subparagraph d; no. 53, April 21, 10 A.M., Section II, paragraph 6; my cable transmitted from London under date of March 8, 1938; and no. 54, April 22, 11 A.M., wherein I pointed out that one among other factors motivating Poland's earnest desire for inclusion in a conference looking to a three, four, or more power pact, (especially in the event of German participation therein) is that Poland, aside from her non-aggression pact with Germany, is apprehensive over the fact that Germany has never declared her satisfaction over

ab04

over the status quo of the German-Polish frontier. Hence Poland feels her inclusion in a multi-power pact including Germany would tend to augment stability of Poland's western frontier.)

Briefly, from Poland's standpoint the situation is still open and has not yet taken sufficiently clear form whereat Poland may be expected to define her position. In reviewing past performances, in terms of Polish foreign policy, there was a period when the latter concentrated upon balancing between Germany and Russia. Then came a period during the past year, when Polish policy, while continuing its former balancing, embarked upon a new phase of balance: between the Rome-Berlin and London-Paris Axes. I now discern the earmarks of Polish foreign policy's additionally embarking upon a balancing game between Rome and Berlin. What in this connection might later appear to be a leaning towards the Rome-Berlin Axis, may, to my mind at the moment, be put down to temporary tactics, rather than a permanent orientation. In other words, I look for Poland fundamentally to protect her own position of independence.

With every good wish and warmest regards, I am,

Faithfully yours,

Tom Biddle Jr.

C O P Y

March 12, 1938.

B-1

Secstate

Washington

3 87, March 12, 4 P.M.

Following message from Ambassador Biddle:

STRICTLY [REDACTED]

My several conversations with authoritative Polish and Italian circles in London and Paris bring to light the following essential points which have an important bearing on conceivable developments in Central Europe in terms of the immediate and long-range outlook:

1. The following set of circumstances have caused Chamberlain to shift temporarily at least his aim from a four-power conference to bringing about a revised Stresa Front;

2. British Ambassador to Berlin, Henderson, had reported to London Hitler's insistence on (a) Germany's claims in colonial domain; (b) a free hand for Germany in Austria and Sudeten Deutsch.

Moreover,

Moreover, during recent Halifax-Ribbentrop conversations, Ribbentrop, in outlining his envisaged foreign policy, stated his intention to attach himself closely to a Nazi foreign policy which dealt with two fundamental questions: (a) unity of Germanic peoples; (b) colonial expansion, having regard for raw materials, population problems, shipping, etc.

In connection with colonial demands, British perceive that an underlying factor contributing to Germany's desire for colonies is Germany's aim to make them a reason for a larger navy on grounds her sea-borne traffic requires protection. Hence a condition British would demand of Germans in return for colonial concessions would be that the naval increase question not be raised.

Ribbentrop, moreover, emphasized Hitler's insistence on the return of former colonies and his refusal to accept any compromise or diminution of claims. In emphasizing his aim for unity of Germanic peoples, Ribbentrop stressed Hitler's conviction that the Germans of Central Europe should be granted the right to establish racial, cultural, and economic connections with the Reich.

3. Halifax had replied, in effect, that Ribbentrop's

representations

representations had put a new complexion on the problem as a whole. Halifax would have to take up the matter with the Cabinet. Moreover, Halifax pointed out emphatically that he considered the colonial question a part of a general settlement and involving other powers.

Moreover, Halifax, realizing that Hitler's insistence on above described three points would prove too much for British public opinion to stomach at the time, and that it would only alienate democratic public opinion in general, had told Ribbentrop that if Hitler did anything precipitous which might serve to alienate British public opinion, Hitler might conceivably torpedo Chamberlain's efforts to bring about a general settlement of grievances without resort to war. Halifax, moreover, cautioned against the risk of precipitating fresh anxiety on the part of British public opinion over any sudden attempt to deal with minority questions by short-cut methods.

4. The result of the foregoing conversations leads the Poles to expect Britain to concentrate on negotiations with Rome, shoving German negotiations into background for the moment for Halifax realizes Hitler's insistence on the three above-mentioned points would make it difficult to come to grips and to find a common ground for Anglo-German negotiations. Poles also feel that British current tactics envisage bringing Italy into line at the earliest

possible moment. Also, the British hope an Anglo-Italian agreement will serve to hold Hitler down and make Hitler eventually more amenable to trading on a more reasonable basis.

In this connection, British Ambassador to Rome, Perth, when recently in London, had informed his Government that Mussolini had urged Britain to hasten the negotiations and try to have an Anglo-Italian agreement a fait accompli before Hitler's May visit to Rome. Mussolini had given as his reason therefor that he was concerned over evidences of Hitler's increasingly leaning more in the direction of the more radical Nazi element. Moreover, at outset of current negotiations, Mussolini had made it clear he was not to be expected to break or endanger his arrangements with Germany, and stated that during the Anglo-Italian negotiations it would be helpful if the British Government could prevent the British press from attacking Hitler and Germany, for the absence of such attacks would help negotiations in view of Hitler's Rome May visit.

According to my informants, both British and Polish reports from Berlin indicated Hitler very cocky and that he means (a) to do business in connection with Czechoslovakia,

and

and (b) consolidate German position in Austria. Poles, moreover, feel Hitler is now in the mood wherein he feels "there is nothing he can get from Britain at this time". (Besides, previous to Eden's resignation, French had been urging him for British cooperation in event of German move against Czechoslovaks. Eden had not been able to acquire Chamberlain's approval thereon before resignation.)

Poles, moreover, are of the opinion that if Germany succeeded in confusing the issue in the event of a move vis-à-vis Sudeten Deutsch neither Britain nor France would march. Britain at moment was neither in position nor mood to risk war through active intervention, and France would not initiate independent military action. Vigorous diplomatic protests and a tense period might be expected to be met by immediate German assurances of guarantees in respect to integrity of Czechoslovak territory, which would contribute towards serving as face-saver for protestants, but there would be no war, for Poles feel that a "Sudeten annexation" would not, in the final analysis, be considered by the British Government, and consequently the French Government, as the question over which democracy should go to war.

Indeed, the Poles feel Britain would succeed in

persuading

persuading France that they both should raise their sights to a longer-range objective and keep their powder dry for the day within the next two years when, according to British apprehension, both Britain and France might conceivably be challenged by an ambitious Germany for the control of the whole of Europe.

Judging the reality of events and from the substance of my various conversations, I do not look for a major conflict to result from the current situation. Nor do I look for a war to result from a German move vis-a-vis Sudeten Deutsch, providing the Germans succeed in confusing the issue, for Britain is neither in position nor mood to engage in war over a German move in Sudeten Deutsch at this time, and I do not believe France would initiate independent military action. As for Poland, I look for her (a) to sit tight in event of the aforementioned move; (b) and believe she might conceivably demand autonomous administration for the Polish minority in the Teschen district."

WILSON

AJDB/lhh/eqm

[6-15-38]

et al.

1938

The news of the past few days from Germany
has ^{definitely} shocked public opinion in the United States.

Such news from any part of the world would in-
evitably produce a similar reaction among ~~the~~
^{profound} American people. With a view to gaining a first-
hand picture of the situation in Germany I asked
the Secretary of State to order our Ambassador
in Berlin ~~to return at once~~ for report and consultation.

I myself could scarcely believe
that such things could occur in
a Twentieth Century civilization.

CH

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ADVISER ON
INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

December 12, 1938.

FIGURES ON INVESTMENTS AND CURRENT PAYMENTS
UNITED STATES - GERMANYI. Investments

The following figures refer to later dates than any estimates heretofore published or made. The figures concerning private investments are obtained from Mr. Dickens of the Finance Division of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, the specialist in this field.

In brief, American investments in Germany, excluding intergovernmental debts, are estimated at \$713,000,000, taking obligations at their nominal par values; German investments in the United States are estimated at \$118,000,000, which is about 16 1/2 percent of this estimate of American investments in Germany. Taking present market value of German dollar bonds as 25 percent of par, and short term obligations as 50, the American investment would be appraised at \$140,000,000 plus whatever value is attributed to direct investments having a book value of \$234,000,000.

United

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United States Investments in Germany

Private investments

1. Direct investment, about \$234,000,000
2. Long term bonds, par value, about 380,000,000
3. Short term obligations, about 99,000,000

- Total, about \$713,000,000

Intergovernmental obligations

4. German Government bonds in the United States Treasury.
 - a. For costs of American Army of Occupation -
bonds 997,500,000 Rm.
accrued unpaid interest 17,505,077.36
Total 1,015,005,077.36 Rm.
 - b. Mixed Claims awards -
bonds 2,040,000,000 Rm.
accrued unpaid interest 47,940,000
Total 2,087,940,000 Rm.
- (For dollar equivalent see note below)
5. Austrian Government bonds in the United States Treasury -
bonds \$25,980,480.66
interest 25,000.33 \$28,005,480.99

German

German investment in the United States

6. Long term investment of all kinds, about	\$100,000,000
7. Short term investment, about	<u>18,000,000</u>
Total, about	\$118,000,000

Notes and comment

1. The previously published estimate of \$228,000,000 direct investments of Americans in Germany has been raised to \$234,000,000 to include direct investments in Austria.

2. The figure of \$380,000,000 for par value of German long term bonds owned in the United States has been increased from a previous estimate of \$365,000,000 to include holdings of Austrian bonds. This estimate would mean that present American holdings of German bonds are about 50 percent of the total amount once owned by Americans and still outstanding. Some private students think that American holdings are much smaller. Dr. Brinkmann, the competent German official, in discussion with Mr. Reuben Clark last June, accepted the latter's figure of \$300,000,000, exclusive of Dawes and Young bonds on which partial interest payments are made. American holdings of the latter are about \$80,000,000. If the \$380,000,000 total be taken, the present market value of American holdings of German bonds would probably be something under \$100,000,000.

3. The estimate of \$99,000,000 of short term German obligations owed to Americans is as of September 28, 1938, and shows debt reduction of \$27,000,000 in nine months from a heretofore published figure of \$126,000,000 estimated as of December 31, 1937.

4. The German Government bonds held by the United States Treasury are expressed in Reichsmarks and there is no very good way to convert them into a dollar sum which can be entered into a tabulation

of American investment in Germany as a figure comparable with the amounts of private investment. The amount of the Reichsmark obligations was originally established by converting dollar amounts into Reichsmarks at 23.8 cents. When the Reichsmark amounts are converted back into dollars at the current exchange rate of 40.33 cents, the 1,015,005,077.36 total indebtedness for costs of the American Army of Occupation is equal to \$409,351,547.70 and the 2,087,940,000 Reichsmark indebtedness for mixed claims awards is equal to \$842,066,202, these amounts being about 69 percent greater than the dollars which would have been payable had the dollar not subsequently been devaluated. The debt agreement provides that the obligations of Germany to pay annuities on mixed claims awards "shall cease as soon as all of the payments contemplated by the Settlement of War Claims Act of 1928 have been completed and the bonds not then matured evidencing such obligations shall be canceled and returned to Germany". The balance-due payment for mixed claims awards as of September 30, 1938 is only \$157,697,841.57, but the awards are interest-bearing and a few new awards may still be made so that the amount eventually payable cannot now be determined. Moreover, as the German Government bonds held by the United States Treasury are non-interest-bearing until the respective bond has become due and has been defaulted, the amount of the bonds, being a sum of annuities payable over a long period of future years, is not directly comparable to the figures for private investments. For all these reasons, although the Treasury must list among its assets Reichsmark bonds of the German Government equivalent to about \$1,250,000,000 par value at current rates of exchange, a tabulation listing this amount in the same column with \$713,000,000 of private investments would give a distorted picture.

5. The bonds of the Austrian relief debt are also non-interest-bearing annuities, the accrued unpaid interest of \$25,000.33 having been incurred only by virtue of the Hoover Moratorium arrangements.

6. --

7.

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7. The \$18,000,000 estimate of short term investment of Germans in the United States is as of September 28, 1938, and shows a reduction of such German assets by \$21,000,000 since December 29, 1937, when they were estimated at \$39,000,000, and a reduction of \$9,000,000 in the two months after June 29, 1938, when the estimate was \$27,000,000.

II. Balance of Payments

Important items of payments between the United States and Germany for 1937 may be tabulated as follows, on the basis of Department of Commerce estimates.

German

aj05

German Payments to the United States

1. Purchase of American exports	\$126,343,000
2. Interest and amortization on German bonds ..	5,000,000
3. Remitted earnings of American controlled corporations in Germany - no estimate available, probably very small.	
4. Expenditures of German tourists on American vessels or in the United States	7,000,000
5. Earnings of American shipping for carriage of exports to Germany	6,000,000
6. Movement of Capital	
a. Increase in German balances in American banks.....	7,000,000
b. Reduction of United States balances and blocked funds in Germany	40,000,000
c. German purchases of American securities	<u>16,000,000</u>
Total	\$207,343,000

American Payments to Germany

1. Purchase of imports from Germany	\$92,468,000
2. Expenditures of American tourists in Germany	18,500,000*
3. Expenditures of American tourists for travel on German vessels	20,000,000
4. Payments to German shipping for freight	22,000,000
5. Personal remittances	5,000,000
6. Movement of Capital	
Sales of German-owned securities in the United States	<u>22,000,000</u>
Total	\$179,968,000

* Most of the \$18,500,000 expended by American tourists in Germany was blocked funds of American banks in

In the case of shipping, it may be of interest to go beyond the figures showing the payments between Germans and Americans, and give more inclusive figures as to the total earnings of German shipping in passenger and freight traffic to and from American ports. During 1937 such earnings are estimated to have been at least \$63,000,000, itemized as follows: passenger traffic, \$20,000,000 (estimated expenditures of American passengers only); cargo inbound to the United States, \$22,000,000 (paid by Americans); cargo outbound from the United States, \$21,000,000 (about \$15,000,000 paid by Germans and about \$6,000,000 by other foreigners, not Americans, to German shipping plying to and from American ports). There would also be a few million dollars spent by alien passengers on these German lines for which no estimate is available.

The figures for investments in the first part of this memorandum have been brought down to recent dates in 1938, and notes to items 3 and 7 therein show changes in the nominal par value amount of short term capital investment between December 29, 1937 and September 28, 1938. No

estimates

called "travelmarks" established to liquidate the funds of foreign banks frozen by the Standstill Agreements. Such expenditures did not provide Germany with any current dollar exchange, but merely with the means of reducing short-term debt of Germans to Americans.

estimates of payments from shipping, tourist expenditures, et cetera, during 1938 are available. During the first ten months of 1938 American exports to Germany were \$89,408,000 as compared with \$99,761,000 during the first ten months of 1937; imports were \$51,351,000, compared with \$77,278,000. Since May 6, 1936, our trade figures with Germany have included trade with Austrian territory. The following table gives monthly figures of trade with the combined territory of Germany and Austria from January 1937 through October 1938:

American

American Exports to and Imports from Germany
and Austria
(in thousands of dollars)

	<u>Exports</u> <u>1937</u>	<u>1938</u>	<u>Imports</u> <u>1937</u>	<u>1938</u>
January	7,562	8,984	8,043	6,079
February ...	9,548	8,546	6,773	4,402
March	9,749	8,653	8,525	4,664
April	12,624	9,672	8,016	4,936
May	7,445	8,170	8,022	4,911
June	9,149	6,633	8,060	4,535
July	8,103	6,438	8,765	4,393
August	11,377	10,743	9,307	5,624
September ..	12,090	12,150	7,873	5,794
October	<u>14,528</u>	<u>10,166</u>	<u>8,793</u>	<u>7,289</u>
10 months ..	<u>102,175</u>	<u>90,155</u>	<u>82,177</u>	<u>52,627</u>
November ...	13,034		8,640	
December ...	<u>14,219</u>		<u>7,408</u>	
Year	<u>129,428</u>		<u>98,245</u>	

Statistics for 1938 trade by commodities with Germany are not yet available. However, in the important case of exports of raw cotton, our exports to Germany in the first nine months of 1938 were 314,000 bales valued at \$11,392,000, compared with 435,000 bales valued at \$30,410,000 for the first nine months of 1937. For the twelve months ending September 30, 1938, the figures were 579,000 bales valued at \$31,225,000 compared with 687,000 bales valued at \$47,342,000 in the twelve months ending September 30, 1937. For the full year 1937 our cotton exports to Germany were valued at \$50,243,000.

Other important United States exports to Germany during 1937 were copper (refined copper \$9,904,000, old and scrap copper \$2,562,000); petroleum products (gasoline \$3,251,000, crude petroleum \$2,004,000, cylinder oil \$4,540,000, lubricating oil \$3,440,000). Other export items which exceeded a value of \$1,000,000 in 1937 were in the order of importance - scrap iron, scrap brass and bronze, tobacco, phosphate rock, carbon black, dried and evaporated fruits, industrial machinery, boards (including planks, and scantlings), sodium borate, and aircraft including parts.

Our principal imports from Germany in 1937 were potash, \$6,668,000; palm kernel oil, \$4,844,000; cameras, \$3,372,000;

\$3,372,000; iron pipes and tubings, \$3,118,000; wood pulp, \$2,788,000; synthetic alizarin, \$2,537,000; intermediate coal tar products, \$2,313,000; crude potassium sulphate, \$2,107,000. No other items reach the \$2,000,000 figure for the year 1937.



THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON

*file
confidential*

January 17, 1939

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT

This is in response to your memorandum of December 27, 1938, in which you ask me to check the figures submitted to you by the State Department on investments and current payments between the United States and Germany.

1. The figures in the memorandum, obtained from the Finance Division of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, are the best available and are accurately presented. More recent data on investments available to us do not substantially alter the results.

2. However, the memorandum does not appear to adequately point out the range of possible error in the data. Figures of German investments in the United States are subject to even a wider range of error than are figures of the investments of most other countries because of the incentive to avoid the foreign exchange restrictions of Germany. For instance, it has come to our attention that substantial amounts of German capital -- rumored at being more than \$90 millions -- have come to the United States in the past four months, but these funds did not show up in our figures because the nationality of the owner was effectively masked.

3. The estimates of the flow of payments between the two countries are also the compilation of the Department of Commerce and are the best figures available. It must be remembered, however, that at least 50 percent of our trade with Germany is carried on by barter. The stated value of imports from Germany on barter transactions is about 25 percent more than the amount of gold we called for to pay for the imports. Therefore the stated value of our imports from Germany in 1938 should be reduced in the balance of payments by \$10 - \$15 million.

H. M. Nathan

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W. C. G.
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PSF:Q (2nd)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

December 20, 1938.

My dear Mr. President:

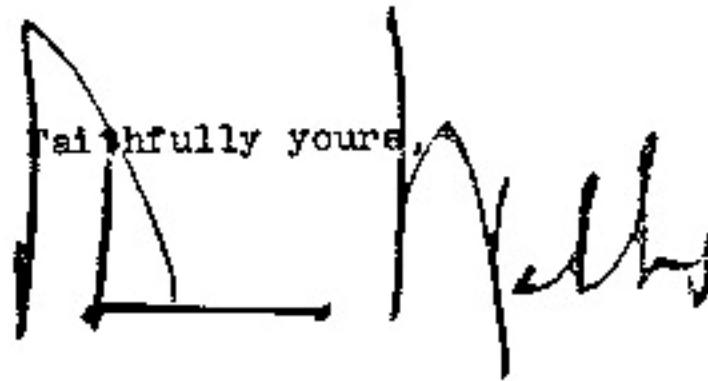
I believe you will be interested in the memorandum of my conversation of this morning with the German Chargé d'Affaires, of which I enclose a copy.

This is the first evidence that the German Government has shown of its willingness to take any step in the interest of our nationals by making exceptions to the existing exchange regulations so that American citizens can withdraw from Germany in full properties which they have inherited.

I am of course confident that this step would not now have been taken by the German Government except for the fact that I indicated to the German Ambassador that public opinion in this country was demanding retaliatory measures.

Believe me

Faithfully yours,



The President,

The White House.

1294

COPY

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

DATE:

December 20, 1938.

SUBJECT: Claims of American citizens to the estates of persons deceased in Germany.

PARTICIPANTS: Herr Hans Thomsen, Chargé d'Affaires ad interim of Germany; The Under Secretary.

COPIES TO:

The German Chargé d'Affaires called to see me this morning by instruction of his Government.

Dr. Thomsen reminded me of a conversation which I had had with Ambassador Dieckhoff shortly before the latter's departure in which I had taken up with the Ambassador in considerable detail the question of the manner in which American citizens residing in Germany were not receiving treatment equal to that received by German citizens residing in the United States. Among the matters taken up by me in that conversation was the way in which American citizens because of German exchange restrictions were unable to receive in full legacies from the estates of persons deceased in Germany.

Dr. Thomsen handed me an aide memoire, which reads as follows:

"In reply to your communication to Ambassador Dieckhoff concerning the treatment of inheritance claims of American citizens to the estates of persons deceased in Germany, I am in a position to state that all inheritance credits of this kind, reciprocity provided, will be transferred to the beneficiaries in full extent."

I stated to the German Chargé d'Affaires that I assumed and gathered from the text of the communication he had given me that the assurances so provided related to all American citizens without distinction. The Chargé d'Affaires replied that my understanding was correct.

The Chargé d'Affaires concluded the interview by stating that he believed Ambassador Dieckhoff's conversations in Germany would be useful. He stated that he believed his Government was beginning to understand that the Government of the United States would not agree to any discrimination between American citizens in Germany. He stated that he thought it was useful for this Government to continue "to affirm that position".

I thanked the Chargé d'Affaires for the communication he had made to me and for the interest which Ambassador Dieckhoff and he had taken in this question. I said I hoped the assurances given would prove to be the forerunners of other more general assurances to the effect that the rights of all American citizens in Germany without distinction would be scrupulously observed.

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*We
Confidential*

PSF (Planned)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

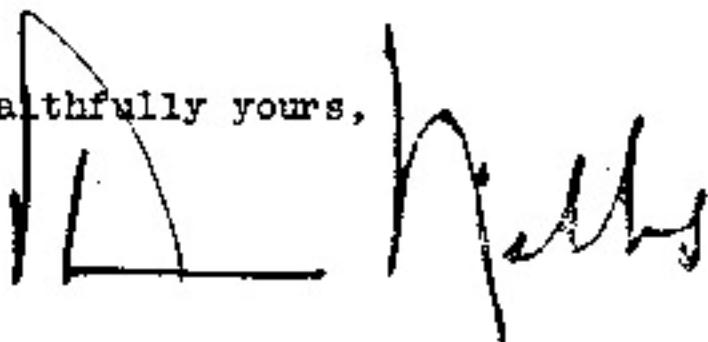
December 23, 1938.

My dear Mr. President:

I believe you will find the views contained in the enclosed memorandum of a conversation between the Chief of the Division of European Affairs and our Assistant Military Attaché in Berlin of interest.

Believe me

Faithfully yours,



Enclosure.

The President,

The White House.

1294

COPY

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

PSF:Q
12/22/38

Memorandum of Conversation

DATE:

December 22, 1938.

SUBJECT: Germany.

PARTICIPANTS: Major Percy Black, U.S.A.
Mr. Pierrepont Moffat, Chief,
Division of European Affairs.

COPIES TO:

1-1408

Major Percy Black, U.S.A., Assistant Military Attaché in Berlin called. He reported that he had every reason to believe that Germany would start moving again in the early Spring. He knew as a fact that certain key reserve officers and certain transport bodies had received orders to hold themselves in readiness as of January 20. (Curiously enough this date coincided closely with the time Ambassador Kennedy had told him the British regarded as the end of the safe era). He thought that the move would be eastward this time though he was indefinite in his opinions as to just where it would strike. He felt that Danzig would be absorbed without difficulty and likewise Memel. He thought that ultimately the Polish Corridor would be solved, - not by granting Germany an autobahn across the Polish

Corridor but by granting Poland an autobahn to Gdynia across German re-covered territory. He did not believe that this eastward movement would result in general war: (a) partly because France and England could not close in the gap between Germany and themselves, and (b) partly because nobody would fight for Poland. On the other hand, he thought the Poles themselves would fight, rather than follow the surrender technique of the Czechs. During the crisis of last September the Germans had denuded East Prussia of troops and had made no efforts to cover their left flank in Silesia. This could only indicate close cooperation between Polish and German General Staffs. I asked Major Black how long he thought it would have taken the German Army to overcome Czech resistance. He replied, "Not more than two weeks and probably less". The Czech defenses such as they were were excellent, but there were serious gaps in them which the Germans knew about. More important, however, was the fact that the Czech plan of defense was to protect the frontiers with approximately equal strength everywhere rather than mass a preponderant strength at some key positions. Thus if the Germans broke through at any one point the collapse of the line followed. The German military had told him after taking over the Czech Maginot-Line that the war would have lasted even less than they had anticipated.

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Major Black went on to say that Germany was definitely planning a customs union and a monetary union with the smaller states to the southeast; that she was going very slowly for the moment in Czechoslovakia as it was a laboratory test being watched by her neighbors. As to German psychology he said that instead of regarding the acquisition of Czechoslovakia as a vast victory for Hitler achieved by his having stronger nerves than his opponents, the man in the street had reacted somewhat as follows: He never believed that there was going to be any fighting until some time in September. He viewed the prospect with horror. Then Chamberlain came over to Germany and war was averted. Ergo, Chamberlain was the man of peace and a public hero in Germany. As the acquisition of the Sudeten area had been assumed from the beginning it was not considered an undue triumph. The German authorities did not like having Chamberlain or the British so popular in Germany; as a result the Goebbel's propaganda against England was intensified and has been going full blast ever since. The Germans did not take too seriously the Italian demands for expansion in the Mediterranean; they were merely useful in keeping French and British attention concentrated elsewhere than on themselves.

2104

PSF: *Germany*
THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

December 23, 1938

My dear Mr. President:

Some time ago you asked Ambassador Wilson to prepare for you a memorandum showing:

(a) the amount of capital invested by Germany in the United States, as well as the amount of capital invested by the United States in Germany, and (b) an analysis of the flow of payments between the two countries.

As Mr. Wilson did not have time to prepare this himself we have had such a memorandum prepared in the office of the Adviser on International Economic Affairs here. I am enclosing herewith a copy.

Faithfully yours,

Enclosure:
Memorandum

The President,

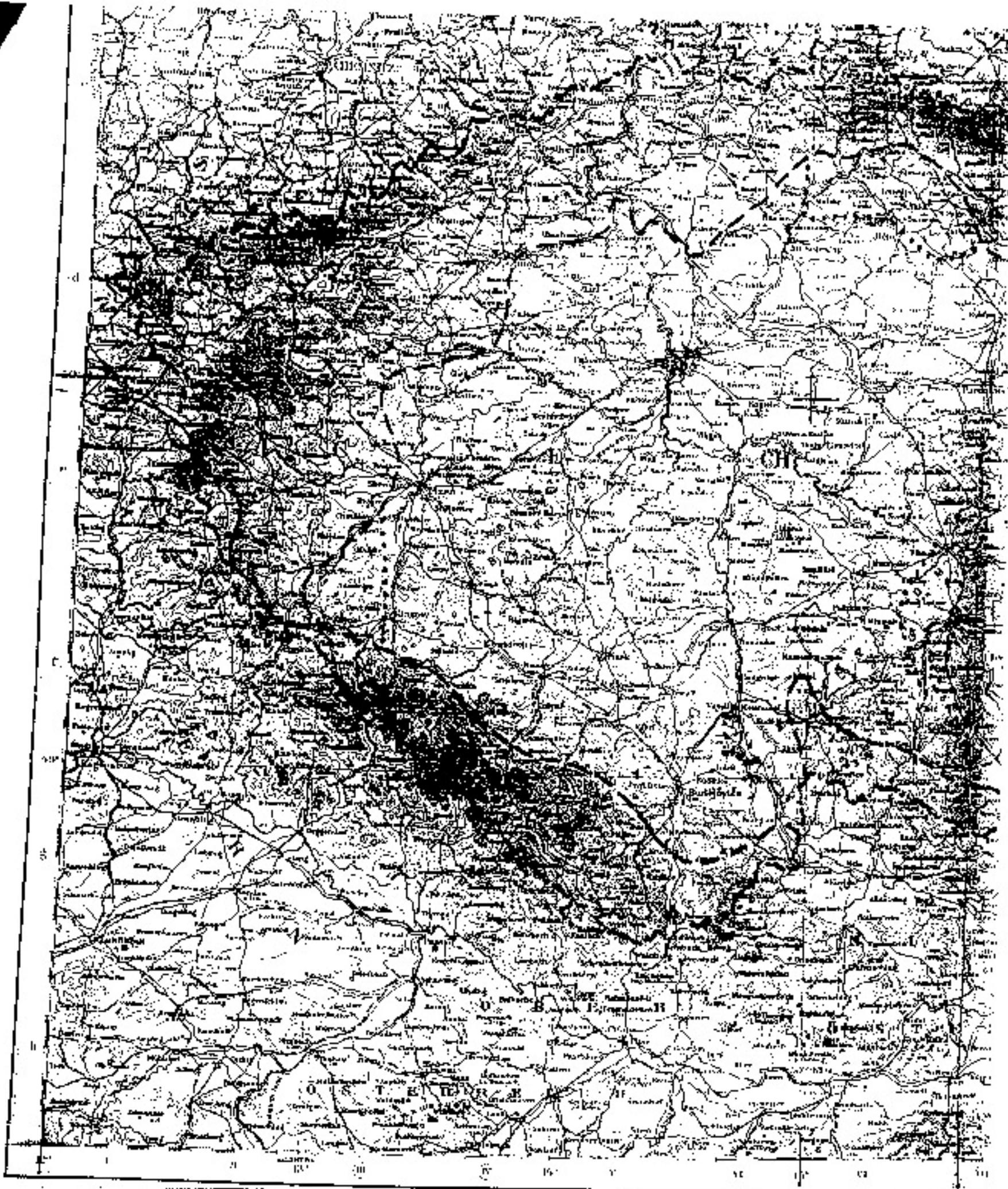
The White House.

1294

HITLER'S PROPOSAL FOR CZECHOSLOVAK
TERRITORY - SEPTEMBER 26, 1938.

9-216-358

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Lines shown on map which accompanied the "final memorandum" of Hitler to Chamberlain, September 23, 1938, as indicated on map transmitted by AP wirephoto, published in the Washington Post, September 26, 1939. The lines shown herein have been transferred (from a photostat enlargement of the wirephoto map) to a portion of the International Map of the World on the millionth scale.

— — — — Limit of the territory which Hitler demands outright by October 1.

· · · · · Areas in which Hitler demands that a plebiscite be held before November 25.

Ge:BBB:RIB
September 26, 1938

MAPS FOR INFORMATION

Current year

Previous year

PHOTOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

PHOTOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 27, 1938.

MEMORANDUM FOR
THE UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE

The President has read
the enclosed and asks me to
return it to you for your
files.

M. A. Le Hand
PRIVATE SECRETARY

Confidential memorandum from
Maxim Prentiss Gilbert,
Charge d'Affaires ad interim,
Berlin; Subject: Comment on
the German Political Situation,
dated October 5, 1938.

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PSF (Quartermaster)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

December 23, 1938

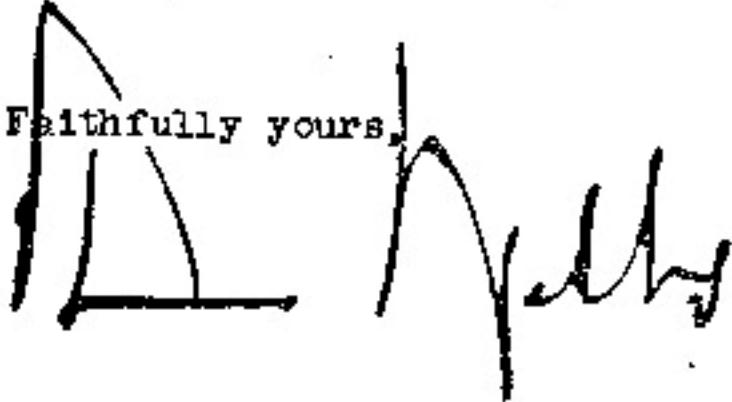
My dear Mr. President:

While I realize it is rather long, I feel that the despatch from Berlin which I am enclosing herewith is of such intrinsic interest that you will wish to read it.

When you are done with it may I ask that it be returned to me for the Department's files.

Believe me

Faithfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Harry" or "H. Hopkins".

Enclosure:

Despatch No. 480,
Berlin, December 5, 1938.

The President,

The White House.

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U.S. Germany 5-8-27
Durchdruck
Entziffertes Telegramm. (gut.)

Aus Berlin.

Ankunft: Washington, den 8. Mai 1933, 9 Uhr - 10th. Y. m.

Br. 474 vom 8. Mai.

Auf Schlußsatz Telegramms Delegation

Schacht Nr. 3.

Bitte Präsident Roosevelt den Dank des Herrn
Reichspräsidenten für freundliches Gedenken und herzliche
Grüße zu übermitteln.

Enelow

Message from President Hindenburg

The New May Day

The "Day of National Labour" was celebrated in Berlin yesterday by a holiday on an unprecedented scale, at which, however, the manual workers who observed it by marching to the Tempelhof Field earned a full day's wage. And since to this inducement was added the known consequence of hostility to any sort of Nazi celebration in any part of Germany, it is not surprising that the great parade-ground outside the capital was more crowded than it had probably been even for the most glittering military occasions of Imperial Germany. Over a million persons are estimated to have gathered there in the evening, after a day of marches and speeches and patriotic songs, jubilant at once for the death of Marat and for the birth of a new Germany; and the day closed with a display of fireworks which must have cost the German State several thousands of pounds. In this item of unproductive expenditure must be added, on the day's balance-sheet, the immense loss to national industry caused by the cessation of work all over the country. The extravagant wastefulness of Labour Day has of course become proverbial in many nations, and seems to have been most egregious yesterday in Madrid, where all the public services were paralyzed, banks, offices, shops, and theatres were closed, traffic was suspended, and mails were undelivered. The miserable inhabitants of the Spanish capital were granted indeed one privilege denied to them on the same day last year—they were allowed to bury their dead. In Chicago the Day was ushered in by a series of bomb explosions. In Vienna the normally easy-going population turned machine-guns at the more important shop-burgers. Only in the neighbouring capital of Budapest do the trade-union leaders seem to have had the sense to cancel the popular holiday on account of the serious economic conditions. In almost all countries where the right of free speaking is still preserved thousands of speeches must have been delivered on the Socialist and Communist theme of international solidarity. In Communist Moscow there was nevertheless a formidable parade of military force. More than 50,000 troops marched past Lenin's tomb, the salute being taken by STALIN in uniform, while hundreds of tanks clattered past in column and as many aeroplanes circled overhead.

This melancholy transformation of the pleasant May Day customs which used to gladden our knees has received its latest impress at the hands of HIRSH HARRIS. The moment which has been appropriated for some decades as meet for the glorification of class-warfare has at least been celebrated by the National-Socialists of Germany as an occasion for the abolition of class differences, and for the unification of workers and employers on the Fascist model. The Corporative State, subordinating by statute the interests of employers and employed to those of the community as represented by the Government, is at least worthy of careful study. Upon Italy, where the system has for some time been practised, it has conferred the immense benefit of avoiding strikes. There class-warfare has been ended. The institution of "after-work" associations, moreover, is a bold bid to improve the moral and material condition of the manual worker. The Government makes his intellectual and physical improvement its special care. In one form or another this idea has taken root in most countries. On other lines Great Britain has of course been a pioneer in social legislation; and Germany since long before the War has had an elaborate State system of workmen's insurance and similar measures. Herr Hitler is intent upon giving his national institutions a new turn. He opposes of course, as he made clear again in his speech last night, the "international solidarity" of the working-classes; there is to be a "new economic order," but it is to be of another sort. He wants neither conventional Socialism nor a return to the pre-War conditions which the chief industrial authority Lubitsch Cabinet, Dr. HUGENBERG, would like to see restored. The Nazi leader regards the all-powerful financial "boss" and the docile factory-worker as belonging to the past. The banners strung across the streets of Berlin yesterday flaunted defiance to the Nationalist members of the Nazi-Nationalist coalition. The Hitlerite National-Socialists are driven forward by the double impulse of making the State identical with their party and of fulfilling the implications of the second part of their hyphenated title, the first part of which, a new Nazism, was celebrated at Potsdam six weeks ago, and the second part, a new Socialism, yesterday.

What the new Socialism is to be did not emerge with any clearness from the Nazi Chief's speech. HITLER HITLER proved himself once more greater as showman than as director of policy. He reasserted his intention to introduce Labour conscription. Universal service in the ranks as manual workers is intended to weld young Germans of all classes together, and to take the place, as a disciplinary university, of the military conscription which was abolished in 1918. There were numerous passages in the speech referring to oppression from without and the regaining of might from within; and unfortunately, as our Berlin Correspondent observes, catchwords

of this sort are more to the taste of a modern German audience than a stern programme of constructive work.

THE PROBLEM OF REVISION

The position of authority and detachment which JOHN GREY of FALLOON holds in British public life gives peculiar importance to his rare political utterances, especially when they cover the field of foreign affairs, in which his own great reputation was made. It may be hoped therefore that the words which he used about Germany in his speech to the Liberal Council yesterday will be understood in that country to be representative of the greater part of public opinion in Great Britain, and will be studied and pondered not only by the German Government but also by the German public, from whom so much salutary truth is nowadays carefully concealed. He spoke of the considerable good will for the German Republic which had been built up gradually in this country during the last decade, how violently that feeling had been shocked during the last few weeks, and how rapidly sympathy had been transformed into mistrust. He summed up the cause of that mistrust in a single phrase. "The 'feeling has grown, apparently throughout Germany,'" he said, "that might is right and that all means are legitimate." He was referring to the measures which the Nazi Government has taken for the "nationalisation" of Germany internally. But clearly he felt, as so many others have regrettably come to believe during these weeks of "Counter-Revolution," that there has been no real change of heart in Germany since 1934; and that the same abominable philosophy of force, now being exclusively applied at home, would once more be introduced into the conduct of foreign policy. Germany may be as we see. Fortunately the rest of the world she is not. "The great security for peace at the present moment," Dr. GREY said truly, "is that Germany is not armed and not in a position to go to war."

It is a terrible indictment; and, if it were the whole truth, it would fairly that no other chance of peace lay before Europe than that Germany should be indefinitely intimidated by the possession of superior force by other countries, and particularly by her neighbours. After the experience of the last ten years it would not be sufficient to wait for the restoration of a moderate Government in Berlin. For what guarantees could there be that another "Counter-Revolution" might not make an end of it, and once more drill the country into armed nationalism? Germany is what her racial characteristics and her geographical position make her. There is no present prospect of a return of the liberalism which JOHN GREY says the world needs; and in any case other countries have to deal with the German Government of the day. There might conceivably be cases of a Government which palpably did not represent the country. But that is not true of the Hitler Government. Whatever its methods and however bitterly its opponents may resent its triumph, it has assuredly a far more enthusiastic and far wider support among the German people than any of its predecessors of recent years. That nothing succeeds like success is particularly true among a people so strongly imbued with the herd instinct as the Germans; and hundreds of thousands, possibly millions, have been converted to the Nazi leader since his advent to power. Germany at the moment is Hitler.

It cannot be said that in regard to foreign affairs the present Chancellor has made speeches or committed acts which can properly cause unease abroad. Some of his henchmen have indeed made foolish threats and used ominous phrases. The Vice-Chancellor, Herr von PAPEN, for instance, in his statement to LORD NEWTON two days ago, coolly remarked that the "prevailing economic insanity of the 'peace settlements'" had believed that to be the "conclusion to which the world had come." The world has come to no such conclusion; and the longer he and his colleagues encourage their countrymen to imagine that the world outside is longing to reverse the decisions of a "politically and economically insane" treaty the more difficult they will render the prospect of its reconsideration and possible modification. In point of fact the view that the Treaty of Versailles was an unjust and vindictive instrument was held, outside Germany, only by comparatively small groups of intellectuals and pacifists of precisely that mentality which, inside Germany, the Nazi movement has violently suppressed. Moderate opinion in this country, at any rate, considers that the Peace Treaties were on the whole justly and considerably framed, and that their territorial provisions correspond closely to racial distribution in Europe. It is, however, realized that certain clauses, and in a minor degree, some of the territorial arrangements, have pressed hardly upon the vanquished countries; and it is known that in particular the German people have never really accepted at heart a peace which their representatives were not allowed to negotiate. Some modifications have already been made. It may be judged wise and equitable to make others. The question of Treaty revision has been brought into the forefront of European affairs. It can never now be got rid of merely by a policy of repression. The issue must be

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THE TIMES SATURDAY APRIL 29

fairly faced. Are any of the present grievances of Germany legitimate? Is there any reason why Germany should not be asked to state her claims? It is just as important to decide which are impossible as to decide which may be justified. And it would do much to clear the atmosphere if the Governments which have taken the lead in this matter could issue an unambiguous statement that no drastic refashioning of the map of Europe is even remotely intended.

The problem of revision was dealt with at great length a few days ago by the Foreign Minister of Czechoslovakia, Dr. BENEŠ, whose long occupation of one of the key positions in Central Europe gives him a special claim to be heard. He said that those who had raised the question of revision deserved gratitude. Nobody imagined that for an indefinite period the vanquished countries ought to be left in the position of "chastened and inferior adversaries." The object of the Peace Treaties, he said, was to establish a new order in Europe, in which there was no temptation to a war of revenge. He insisted that the real problem before Europe was to decide where the process of evolution, already begun, should stop—safely now the point "where we will consider the equilibrium between the two camps to be definitely established." Small adjustments of frontier might be possible. He declared, only if the outside pressure were brought to bear upon those who were called upon to make sacrifices, if the changes were made in an atmosphere of tranquillity and after several years of calm collaboration between the nations affected; and if the sacrifices were accompanied by equitable compensations. This is the language of statesmanship; and it was appreciated as such in Hungary. But the reception of DR. BENEŠ's speech in Germany only showed how extravagant are the hopes entertained there and how wild are the ideas of how they can best be realized. An authoritative statement from those who raised the issue of revision is desirable to dispel needless alarm on the one side and false hopes on the other.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF PROTOCOL

Germany - 1933

July 10, 1933.

Dear Colonel McIntyre:

In March last you sent over to the Department a letter addressed to Prince Friedrich of Prussia by the President transmitting his autographed photograph.

The letter and its accompaniment were forwarded to the American Embassy at Berlin for delivery and the Department is now in receipt of a despatch from the Chargé d'Affaires ad interim enclosing Prince Friedrich's reply which you will find herewith.

Charles Lee Cooke.

Enclosure:

From Prince Friedrich of
Prussia to the President.

PO:CLC:JBW

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June 25, 1933.

Dear President:-

I want to give your Excellency
sincerest thanks for your kind letter and
the wonderful picture which I received with
the greatest joy. Your Excellency cannot
imagine, how immensely I appreciate your
great kindness.

I will never forget the grant
time and the hospitality I enjoyed in your
country and I will be too glad in accepting
your very kind invitation to see you in
Washington on the very next occasion which
will present itself to me to make another
trip to the United States.

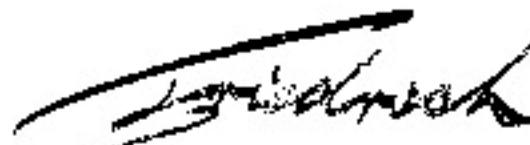
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To His Excellency the President of
the United States Franklin D. Roosevelt,

Washington.

With my kindest regards and best
respects also to Mrs. Roosevelt I am always
yours very sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive ink, appearing to read "Gridley".

By Louis Ford, Grandson

F.D.R. 7-2-31

Germany - 1933

THE CHATHAM



SECOND BOULEVARD AT PINGREE
DETROIT, MICHIGAN

8. 13. 33.

Your Excellency :

Having returned from my trip abroad I wanted to take the liberty in informing Your Excellency that I am back on my job with the Ford Motor Company in Detroit.

I had a most interesting and delightful time in Europe. My dear Grandfather took the most wonderful care of me and put me through a very severe cure in order to restore my health which had been rather delicate. I just got to Germany in time to watch as a close spectator the great developments which have inaugurated a new aera in the Fatherland. Germany is also having her " New Deal ". It was one of the greatest satisfactions of my whole life, when I witnessed the historical speach of Hitler in the Reichstag, when he could grasp the powerful hand which Your Excellency in the name of your great Nation had stretched out in order to help restore the confidence and peace in this world. I hardly could dominate my emotion at that moment knowing that I belonged to those who had the great honour of having met America's great Leader. I believe it not to be too assuming if I daresay like many millions of my countrymen, that we never will forget

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THE CHATHAM



SECOND BOULEVARD AT PINGREE
DETROIT, MICHIGAN

this voice of friendship and understanding which was raised by the President of the United States at one of the most critical moments in the history of the post war.- Mr. Henry Ford very kindly is giving me a most wonderful opportunity to get in closer contact with the enormous country by sending me out as a free lance roadman. On this trip, which will take me all over the United States, I shall study Mr. Ford's great Organization as well as conditions at large. I am so happy and thrilled to be able to do this at a time, when the whole Nation under Your Excellencie's leadership is making an unequalled effort to get on it's feet again. The trip, which will last until Christmas will end up at New York. I would be only too happy if on my way from Atlanta, which is going to be my last stop in the South, I could get a chance to see Your Excellency for a few seconds in Washington and have a short talk. I am very likely to go back to Germany in January for my Grandfather's 75th birthday and I do not know yet if I shall be able to return to this country, because my family wants to get me trained to take care of the family affairs since my brother William resigned his rights because of his marriage.

My brother Fritzi fortunately is feeling much better now, though his leg still is rather weak. He was awfully tickled to get your picture and his brother envies him, hoping

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THE CHATHAM



SECOND BOULEVARD AT PINGREE
DETROIT, MICHIGAN

to get one too eventually.

With my very best wishes and most respectful regards
also for Mrs. Roosevelt

I am always yours very sincerely

Ross Treadwell

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C02

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

December 14, 1933.

Dear Mr. President:

With reference to the exchange of telegrams with Ambassador Dodd which has already been brought to your attention, I am enclosing a copy of another confidential telegram regarding Germany's position on disarmament which I have just received.

It does not seem that this calls for any reply. I have sent a copy, in paraphrase, to Norman Davis in New York.

Faithfully yours,

1 enclosure.

The President

The White House.

William R. Ralston

Telegram returned to
State Dept.
12/28/33, 1.8 P.

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PSF: *Lerman*

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

April 24, 1934.

Dear Mr. President:

I feel that the information contained in this letter from the Acting Commercial Attaché at Berlin to Doctor Willard Thorp is of sufficient importance and even urgency to bring to your attention. In view of the bankers' meeting which is scheduled to meet in Berlin in three days, the last paragraph of the enclosed letter appears to be of especial significance.

Faithfully yours,

1 enclosure.

The President

The White House.

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COPY/

April 4, 1934.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Dr. Willard L. Thorp,
Director, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Dr. Thorp:

Subject: American Firms Assisting Germany's Air Armaments.

The subject matter of this letter does not ordinarily fall within the scope of the Commercial Attaché's office and accordingly I have already informed the Embassy and the Military Attaché concerning everything that is herein contained. Nevertheless, the subject is such an important one and I have received a first-hand evidence on it, I believe to a greater extent than some of the other Government representatives here, so that it may be desirable for me to submit this information to the Bureau for what use you decide to make of it.

In the last few weeks, several representatives of American aviation companies have discussed with me their new orders in Germany. The United Aircraft concern, and particularly their Pratt & Whitney unit, have had a total of six representatives in Germany for some time. They are selling aviation equipment, principally motor parts, including crankshafts, cylinder heads and other items which the Germans apparently cannot make satisfactorily. They are delivering now enough material for about 100 airplanes per month and are increasing this figure as fast as they can, as the Germans are bombarding them with cables for more speedy shipments. In all, they now have orders for equipment for 2,000 airplanes. A representative of the Sperry Gyroscope Company informed me last week that his firm is delivering automatic pilots and gyro compasses and other aviation instruments here to equip 50 airplanes per month at the present rate of delivery and are speeding up the process. Furthermore, that they have sold the manufacturing rights to the Askania Works here for the manufacture of a number of their devices, including, I believe, some of their fire control systems for anti-aircraft guns.

Today, a representative of the Curtis-Wright Company informed me that he is just starting business in Germany and hopes to get in on some good orders. A few Curtis-Wright machines have already been sold here. The Douglas Company has also had some business here lately.

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Altogether, putting things together it seems quite clear that Germany will have a fleet of new airplanes numbering about 2500 at the completion of their present air drive. This ought to be about one year from now. This means that Germany will be armed in the air and under the protection of this air armament can proceed more slowly to build up her land and sea forces. Progress in these other directions is somewhat slower than in the air army, but a good deal is going on nevertheless, for example, two weeks ago I was informed by the export manager of the Ludwig Loewe company of Berlin, manufacturers of machine tools, that they had some export orders, including one from Yugoslavia, for 30 million marks worth of machinery for making machine guns, that they are unable to fill because the German army authorities had forbidden the export of such machinery, saying that they needed themselves all that could be made here. The German firm was trying to get in touch with American machine tool manufacturers Pratt & Whitney, and eventually met a director of that firm who happened to be in Berlin at that time. The order will either go to this firm or to Vickers in England.

From my conversations with the American aviation representatives it seems that they are able to get payments in foreign exchange for shipments of airplane parts, whereas ordinary business firms are suffering the most severe difficulties and in many cases they are practically embargoes on the import of goods from the outside. It seems evident that Goering has got the right of way with his air armament program and has first call on what foreign exchange the Reichsbank can get together.

Very truly yours,

Douglas Miller
Acting Commercial Attaché.

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PSF:GL

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

June 5, 1934.

Dear Mr. President:

It occurs to me that it may be of interest to you to glance through some excerpts of despatches and private letters written by Mr. Messersmith shortly before he left Berlin for his new post.

I am enclosing a memorandum from the Office of the Economic Adviser with regard to direct trade interchanges with the German Government at the present time. I feel that the substance of this memorandum is of sufficient importance to suggest that you may find it well worth while to glance through it.

Mr. Messersmith is definitely of the opinion that the Hitler regime is in far more serious straits than is generally realized and, as he puts it, "there are only two ways out which the Germans can see. The one is by negotiation of very favorable agreements with the major suppliers of raw materials, and the other through the getting of credits.

With

The President

The White House.

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"With respect to the first way out, Germany has already concluded a considerable number of agreements with her imports; but these do not assure her of the major supplies of raw materials which she needs and do not open to her for her exports the major markets which she needs desperately ... I think they still believe that we are so eager to find an outlet for our agricultural surplus and that agricultural interests can exert such a pressure on our Government, that an agreement very favorable to them would be made by us."

"The second way out would be through credits.... and I rather think that the Government will place its main reliance in that. Schacht wants a credit from us for the purpose of propping up a regime which is daily by its acts and by those of a Party, which it is frankly proclaimed is the State, discriminating against American imports and American interests in Germany guaranteed by treaty and international practice. He wants a credit from us to help a regime which, by its own acts, is destroying its capacity to repay."

Quotations from a still later letter:

"The acuteness of the export and the raw material question has done more than any other single factor to bring

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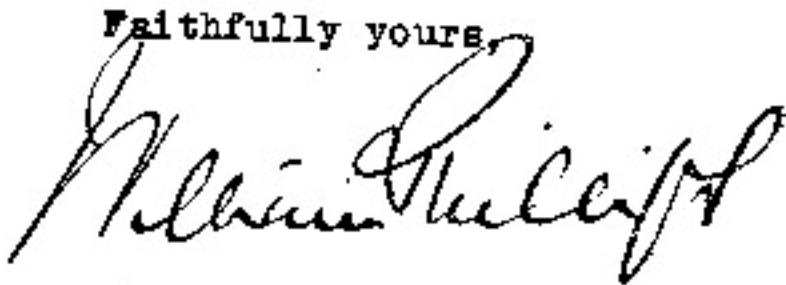
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bring a realization of the dangers to the regime. The intelligent foreign observers here who in December felt that the regime might last are now, so far as I can see, a unit in believing that it cannot continue for more than five or six months at the most. I talked last evening with the best informed of the American correspondents here and the one who has wide and close contact with the highest leaders of the Party, and he was very direct in his statement that they would be finished in five or six months, unless help comes to the regime from the outside which will prop its falling prestige in the country and which will provide the raw materials which they have to have. I have information showing that business men in various parts of the country who have been rendering lip service to the present regime for various reasons are now being more outspoken and have lost all confidence..... Schacht can hardly agree to pay anything, because if he does, it is practically certain that he can't pay anyway. If he did agree to pay and if they could pay, I am sure the agreement wouldn't be of any use, for the secondary people in control here are not going to permit any exchange to be used for interest payments. Their only hope is to try to force us into some agreement by which they pay nothing and the bankers promise to use their influence to get credits for raw materials and to add credit .

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credit or bilateral agreements through which Germany will pay for raw materials with exports of finished goods. I realize thoroughly that we want an outlet for raw materials and that Germany is potentially one of our best customers for such materials; but I am convinced that anything that we do now, directly or indirectly, will be of no real help to us and will merely aid to maintain a regime which is beginning to totter, and that the only hope for Europe, and for us all, is that this regime does fall so that it may be replaced by a Government with which we can deal in the ordinary way.... As I see it, we have nothing to lose and everything to gain by a policy of waiting."

Faithfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive ink, appearing to read "William B. Clegg".

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OFFICE OF THE ECONOMIC ADVISER
MEMORANDUM

June 4, 1934.

Economic Considerations regarding the
Desirability of entering into Direct Trade Interchanges
with the German Government at the Present Time

(1) The elements of recent German commercial policy (of which the chief factors have been quotas often established on arbitrary bases, the creation of state monopolies for import, treaties giving arbitrary and sometimes discriminatory rights to import, and restrictions on exchanges) have deprived our most-favored-nation treaty with Germany of effectiveness. The German Government refused an invitation extended by this Government some months ago to mutually define most-favored-nation rights.

(2) In regard to the commodity most often mentioned, lard, the German Government has (a) created a monopoly for dealing in all fats, which monopoly strives to develop home supplies to the utmost, regardless of price, and (b) in treaties signed with other countries has given these other countries quotas for lard import more favorable than those

allotted

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allotted to the United States (this is measured by reference to previous trade). Thus, if we were given an increased opportunity for lard export, it would merely be restoring a part of the trade opportunities we are entitled to under the treaty.

(3) If the German Government finds that by harsh and discriminatory curtailment of shipments of American goods, it can secure as a consequence special concessions in the American market, it is almost certain that existing curtailment will be maintained and possibly extended with the German Government asking for special market opportunities or special credits.

(4) If we deal with the German Government on this basis, it is quite possible that other European countries will feel that Germany has gained an advantage and will seek to impose the same conditions for continuation of American trade. In short, dealing with Germany on this basis might open the way to having much of our trade deliberately shut off and then only having it restored for special and directly

compensating

compensating concessions. The European countries which consider their trade balances with us to be unfavorable are likely to believe that much more can be gained this way than by merely entering into ordinary reciprocal treaties with us.

(5) It would be difficult to promise an expansion of the American market for any substantial quantity of German goods -- (a) because so many of Germany's goods are competitive with American products, and (b) because of the widespread boycott on German goods in this country.

(6) Failing the ability to quickly increase the market for German goods, we would be likely to be called upon to extend credit to the German Government. As bearing on that it may be remembered (a) there would be a great number of prior claims on the resources of the German Government, so that all German Government paper would have a very dubious credit standing; (b) Germany has defaulted on the payment of most of the long term government securities held in this country.

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(7) The formulation of any special trade agreement with the German Government at the present time, even though the scope of the agreement is small, is not apt to increase the friendliness in economic matters of those European countries which are at present opposed to German policies.

(8) It is probable that the German Government's interest in the transaction is not so much a calculation that its trade situation would be greatly eased thereby as (a) the knowledge that any special arrangement of this type with the American Government would enhance the prestige of the Hitler Government, (b) perhaps form the beginning of a credit arrangement, and (c) create a generally advantageous bargaining position vis-à-vis the United States, divested of treaty obligations.

(9) It may be added, in conclusion, that over a period of time, even as short as six months, it would be difficult, if not impossible, for Germany to get along without a large part of the raw materials now purchased from the United States.



PSF:Herndon
(S) (2)

THE SECRETARY OF STATE

WASHINGTON

**REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED**

December 14, 1934.

Personal and Confidential

My dear Mr. President:

With reference to the proposed German cotton deal, which is in the nature of a bartering transaction, it is the function of the State Department to concern itself only in so far as the proposed transaction affects the general trade agreements program which we have undertaken, our commercial policy, and our general foreign relations. The Department only offers such comment and information as may be in the main supplemental to that already possessed by government officials dealing immediately with this proposal, and such as may be deemed of value to the President and other governmental agencies concerned in making a final decision.

Naturally, the State Department must deal with broad policies and broad trade methods rather than with individual projects or individual barter transactions

or

The President,

The White House.

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or limited transactions, especially those partaking of a bartering nature. It is the policy of the State Department to maintain the broad general policy and practice, as nearly as possible, of the doctrine of equality of commercial and industrial treatment, and hence, of opposition to its violation by the numerous sorts of discriminations and preferences well known to the public. This doctrine is the corner stone of our present foreign policy and of our reciprocal trade agreement program; it is the basis of our repeated protests to Germany, in particular, against her discriminations against us and the preferences recently granted to other countries and their nationals, with respect both to the payment of debt service and to trade.

If exceptions are made to the most-favored-nation policy of equality, it should be made only in case of emergency and temporary conditions and upon thoroughly considered decisions. This rule should not, of course, minimize the important needs of export markets for our various burdensome agricultural and other surpluses, but instead these needs should at all times be duly considered.

The sole purpose of the present program of reciprocity trade agreements is to provide as rapidly as possible in

in a broad way for the exportation facilities especially for our more burdensome surpluses, such as cotton, tobacco, lard and other hog products, wheat, automobiles, etc., etc. It is believed that the one most effective way to accomplish this vitally important objective is to maintain and promote a policy of gradually reducing discriminations and preferences and increasing equality of trade and commercial treatment, and that the maintenance of this attitude in the public mind of the world is all-important.

The experience and attitude of the State Department toward Germany since the spring of 1934 has been in brief as follows: When Germany was openly planning and practicing defaults on her \$2,000,000,000 of debt due in the United States, she at the same time approached the State Department more than once with a professed proposal to agree on a new trade arrangement. It was not possible at that early stage on account of the tariff situation and certain other conditions, for our Government to take up the matter, even if it had been willing to ignore such discriminations as the wholesale debt default to our nationals while paying nationals

of

of other countries, and also discriminating against our commerce with her. I courteously replied on each occasion expressing the desire of this Government in every feasible manner and as early as feasible to enter upon satisfactory trade arrangements with all countries so disposed, and that Germany in this respect was placed in the same deferred class with England, Canada, and a majority of the nations of the world.

Germany, during the past summer, repeated her trade agreement proposals as stated, but, while paying other countries both her debt and trade balances, she flouted our nationals and declined in any trade conversations that might take place to indicate with the slightest definiteness or detail or method any terms to which she might agree, either to pay our nationals or to cease discriminating against our commerce under our commercial treaty with her.

In the meantime reports constantly came to the Department to the effect that we would in any event be forced to sell Germany our cotton and perhaps some copper, lard, etc. The Department at the same time strongly believed, as it still does, that the reverse was true and that Germany would first be forced to buy at least 500,000 bales of cotton from the United States,

and

and that she could and would pay cash for it, as she was promptly paying cash for immense armament and vitally desirable products.

It was in these circumstances that the State Department, since last spring, has not undertaken either a special or general trade arrangement with Germany, but with the strong belief, as stated, that Germany within a reasonable time would find it necessary to make the purchases from us for cash, the Department has gone forward with its plans to promote a system of reciprocal trade agreements bottomed on equality rather than discrimination. This includes Brazil and numerous other countries with whom conversations some time ago had reached an advanced stage of understanding.

This program and this policy have been constantly thrust in the face of Germany, of Japan, and other countries which seemed bent on preferences and discriminations, especially against us. This broad and consistent course is calculated to avoid giving any country any ground or pretext to discriminate, much less driving it to do so.

It was in the foregoing circumstances that the proposed cotton deal came to the notice of the State Department two or three weeks ago. In view of what has been said above it is not necessary to elaborate further upon the effects of the proposed deal.

Faithfully yours,

Conrad Kuhn

Exports views

CONSIDERATIONS RELATIVE TO THE PROPOSED
GERMAN COTTON DEAL

1. The plan would seriously endanger our trade agreements program.
2. If we enter into a special preferential arrangement of this character, other cotton export countries, like Brazil, will be compelled to seek similar preferential arrangements in the German market. Brazil has already expressed grave concern with regard to this proposal.
3. If German fertilizer is given preferential treatment in our market, such as this plan would provide, Chile would be compelled to dump nitrates in our market. Representations to this effect have already been made by the Chilean Ambassador. Will we be able to apply the anti-dumping law against Chile while admitting German fertilizer at prices below the official reichsmark rate?
4. The plan would discriminate against other gold standard countries and given special preference to German exports to the United States through the sale of reichsmarks at a discount. If we seek and grant preferential treatment, can we seek equality of treatment for our commerce and nationals from other countries?
5. The proposed plan is a device to undo, in part, the devaluation of the dollar.
6. The sale of German marks at a considerable discount is likely to exert a depressional influence on

American

American prices and seriously affect those American industries which would be subjected, under this plan, to sharp German competition.

7. On top of her gross discrimination of American nationals, this deal would make a very good trade bargain for Germany, but with little gain and large risks for the United States.

8. There is no assurance that the suggested 800,000 bales can, under the proposed plan, be sold to Germany, since cotton exporters might not, in fact, be able to get dollar exchange.

9. It should be noted also that even though the plan does not break down, there is no assurance that American cotton exporters will not be forced to sell cotton at a loss.

10. Attention should, moreover, be called to the fact that the United States Government, through the Export-Import Bank, stands to suffer what may amount to substantial losses.

11. If this plan goes through, would the Treasury be able to apply the anti-dumping law to similar deals privately arranged and privately financed?

12. The proposed plan is almost certain to engender extreme resentment among that large section of the American public which is violently opposed to the Hitler régime.

ELABORATION OF POINTS MADE IN SUMMARY DRAFT
ON THE PROPOSED GERMAN COTTON DEAL

1. The Interdepartmental Trade Agreements Committee after thorough study of the proposed plan has reached the conclusion that the proposed plan is not only economically unsound but would also militate seriously against the success of the whole trade agreements program. Indeed, countries may refuse to conclude agreements with us if the concessions are nullified by special preferential arrangements such as that contemplated in the German deal.
2. This Government has already made definite proposals to Brazil involving joint declaration by both Governments against special preferential arrangements by either party and taking a stand for the principle of the open door in commerce and equality of treatment. Indeed, we have pressed Brazil to refrain from making special preferential arrangements with Germany. In consequence, Brazil cut off negotiations with Germany pending the conclusion of the trade agreement with the United States. The representatives of the Brazilian Government now say that if we conclude the proposed cotton deal with Germany, they will not be able to make the proposed agreement with the United States, and will themselves be compelled to enter into the preferential arrangements with Germany which had earlier been contemplated.

On

On the other hand, should we refrain from the proposed German cotton deal, Brazil has indicated willingness to proceed along the lines of our original proposal.

3. The concern of the representatives of the Chilean Government with respect to the discrimination against their nitrates in case the German fertilizer is given preferential treatment, as would be the case under the proposed cotton deal, is indicative of the character of protests which may be expected from other countries.

4. How will other gold standard countries look upon a plan which discriminates in favor of the German mark; which in some measure reestablishes the old dollar value of the mark while at the same time gold currencies are selling at the devalued dollar rate. If the plan is limited to Germany, it would amount to definite discrimination in favor of German exporters as against exporters of gold standard countries. If it is argued that we might offer to make a similar arrangement with any of the gold standard countries, it would still be true that such a plan would not, in fact, give equality of treatment to all countries unless, indeed, each of the gold standard countries were as urgently in need of the cotton at premium prices as is the case with Germany.

5. The proposed plan is a device to undo, in part, the devaluation of the dollar. Whatever advantages have accrued to the United States because of devaluation, whether in

terms

terms of the adjustment of domestic prices or of stimulus to export trade, tend to be lost vis-à-vis Germany. The device aims to establish a special depreciated German mark, and this, of course, implies a corresponding appreciation of the dollar in terms of the German mark.

6. The sale of German marks at a considerable discount is likely to assert a depressional influence on American prices and seriously affect those American industries which are subject to sharp German competition. The power to sell marks at a large discount might have a considerable effect upon a wide range of American prices. The sale of German marks at a discount of 41 percent would be equivalent to a kind of dumping, which might represent a serious competitive threat for many American Industries. Consideration needs to be given to the political implications involved in this threatened intensified German competition. Substantially the same result would, to be sure, follow from an open depreciation of the German mark. But there is the important difference that, under the proposed plan, the depreciation of the mark would be actively promoted by our own action, and, therefore, any unfavorable reaction upon our own industries could be charged directly to our own Government.

7. The proposed plan is clearly to Germany's advantage, but offers little advantage and many disadvantages for the United States. If Germany secures a preferred market for

her

her exports, in exchange for the one American product which her economy vitally needs and must have even at premium prices, she will have made a very good trade bargain indeed, on top of her gross discrimination of American nationals.

In the extraordinarily difficult position in which Germany finds herself because of her prevailing balance of payments, Germany will be compelled to strain herself to the utmost to rigorously curtail imports. If, despite this fact, she is willing to pay premium prices for American cotton, it is clear that this import is of extraordinary value to her. Were it not for the fact that we have a commodity such as cotton, which is so essential to the economy of Germany, it would be quite impossible to adopt this peculiar device by means of which exports from Germany to the United States are, in effect, subsidized. It is to be noted that while the proposed plan, on the one side, is said to facilitate cotton exports to Germany because more dollar exchange will be made available to Germany through her additional exports to this country under the proposed subsidy, on the other side cotton exports to Germany are, under the plan, penalized by the premium price of 22-1/2 percent which must be paid. It is by no means certain that the disadvantages of the premium price may not outweigh such advantage as may accrue from the expected increased dollar exchange made available to Germany through increased exports to the United States.

If

If Germany is compelled to pay a higher price for cotton, the cost of German cotton manufactures for export will increase. In consequence, either the German Government will be compelled to subsidize the export of cotton textiles, or else German exports of cotton textiles will decline. In the first case, Germany would be engaged in competitive dumping in the world market, including our own; in the second case, she would be compelled to buy less from abroad, including American products.

8. Despite the commitment on the part of the German Import Company to buy 800,000 bales, there is no assurance, under the plan, that this amount of cotton will, in fact, be sold. This is true for the reason that while the German Import Company may be prepared to buy the cotton, American cotton exporters will not sell the cotton unless they can get dollar payments. The plan does not insure dollar payments for the reason that should the Export-Import Bank be unable to sell the accumulated marks at \$.2382 or more, no dollars would be available in the Cotton Shippers Exchange Fund, from which American cotton exporters could get dollar payments.

9. There is no assurance that the American cotton exporter will, in fact, get the prevailing U. S. market price in terms of dollars for his cotton. Should it turn

out

out that the reichsmarks are sold by the Export-Import Bank at a rate below \$.3045, the cotton shipper would not be able to get the prevailing market price for his cotton in terms of dollars. Should the marks sell at as low as \$.2382, the cotton shipper would obtain, in dollars, 15 percent less than the U. S. market price. In this event, not only would German goods be dumped in this country, but also, on the other side, cotton would be dumped in Germany, since the American cotton exporter would be laying down cotton in Germany at a lower price than that prevailing in the United States.

10. Attention should, moreover, be called to the fact that the United States Government, through the Export-Import Bank, stands to suffer what may amount to serious losses. Under the plan, the Export-Import Bank engages to convert reichsmarks into dollars at the average rate at which it sold reichsmarks on the preceding day. The new reichsmarks thus purchased may, however, have to be sacrificed subsequently at a very considerable loss.

11. The question may be raised whether the Treasury, by refraining from applying the anti-dumping law to American importers of German goods who have purchased reichsmarks from the Export-Import Bank, thereby also commits itself to refrain from applying the anti-dumping law with respect to importers of German goods who have bought

blocked

blocked marks at a discount and other devices designed to subsidize German exports to this country.

12. Consideration may also be given to the resentment which the proposed plan would likely arouse among that large section of the American public which is violently opposed to the Hitler régime, and which would view with grave disfavor any plan that helped to bolster the economic stability of that régime.

ADDENDUM TO MEMORANDUM ON PROPOSED GERMAN COTTON DEAL

1. Brief Summary of Proposed Plan.

The German Import Company agrees that the purchase price of the cotton acquired in the United States under the proposed plan shall be the domestic market price plus a premium of 22-1/2 percent. The German Import Company agrees that the purchase price shall be payable in the following manner: (a) 25 percent of the purchase price shall be paid in United States dollars; and (b) 75 percent of the purchase price shall be paid in terms of reichsmarks computed at the official rate of \$.4033.

The German Import Company agrees to deposit to the credit of the Export-Import Bank reichsmarks covering 75 percent of the purchase price. The Export-Import Bank intends to convert the reichsmarks thus received into United States dollars for the benefit of American cotton exporters.

This conversion would be accomplished in the following manner: In the first instance, the German Import Company agrees to deposit to the credit of the Export-Import Bank 1,000,000 reichsmarks. The Export-Import Bank would sell these reichsmarks to American importers for use exclusively in payment of German products imported into the United States. The Export-Import Bank may sell these reichsmarks

marks at such rates as it may determine but in no event at a rate less than U.S. \$.2382. The dollar proceeds derived from the sale of these reichsmarks shall be deposited by the Export-Import Bank in a separate account designated as "Cotton Shippers Exchange Fund." From this fund, the Export-Import Bank would then convert into dollars, for the benefit of American cotton exporters, the reichsmarks received in payment of cotton shipments to the German Import Company. The conversion rate to cotton exporters would vary from day to day according to the average rate at which reichsmarks had been sold by the Export-Import Bank to American importers of German goods on the preceding day.

As explained above, with every shipment of American cotton the German Import Company agrees to deposit reichsmarks covering 75 percent of the purchase price to the credit of the Export-Import Bank. The American cotton shipper then draws upon the Export-Import Bank in reichsmarks, and at the same time, requests the Export-Import Bank to convert reichsmarks into United States dollars in the manner just described. Thus, a revolving fund is set in operation. As the Export-Import Bank sells reichsmarks to American importers of German goods, dollars thus obtained are exchanged for new reichsmarks created by further cotton shipments. The Export-Import Bank, however, does not agree to convert reichsmarks into dollars

for

for the benefit of cotton shippers unless dollars are already available in the Cotton Shippers Exchange Fund. In other words, should the Export-Import Bank find it impossible to sell the reichsmarks even at the low dollar price of \$.2382, cotton shippers would find it impossible to get payment in terms of American money.

2. The Purpose of the Plan.

From the American standpoint, the plan is designed to facilitate the export of cotton to Germany. The argument is made by Germany that she cannot continue to buy cotton from the United States unless she can find the necessary dollar exchange through exports to the United States. From the German standpoint, the plan is designed to facilitate German exports by means of a device which, in effect, subsidizes German exports to the United States.

Germany has hitherto sought to stimulate German exports by means of the discount on the various varieties of blocked marks. Foreign holders of German securities have, in effect, been called upon to subsidize German exports through the device of the discount on blocked marks, and also through the profits realized from the purchase of German securities in foreign countries at a discount.

There has been some discussion of a general plan to tax all German importers and use the funds so derived to subsidize directly German exports. The proposed plan

is a special form of a tax on German importers designed to subsidize German exports, the tax in this case being limited to the importers of American cotton, the subsidy being applied to German exports to the United States. This subsidy takes the form of a sale of German marks to American importers at a discount, thereby enabling them to buy German goods at a favorable dollar rate.

Germany - 1934



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Muenchen, 12 - 16 - 34

Your Excellency,

Please let me thank you most heartily for your extremely kind letter, which I highly appreciate. It is so awfully nice of you to have written me personally, in spite of the tremendous burden of work and worries you are carrying. I am looking forward to going to America and paying Your Excellency my respects at the White House, but unfortunately I do not think that I shall be able to make the trip during the Winter, because my family wants me to stay in Germany for the time being. But anyhow I hope to run over to my beloved United States as soon as possible, even if it were for a week or two.

Wishing your Excellency and your whole family a merry Christmas and a most happy and successful New Year I remain with my best wishes

very sincerely yours

Ray Feilmyer

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PSF *W. G. C.*

W. G. C.
Vienna, December 21, 1934.

Dear Mr. President:

I wish to tell you how appreciative I am, as well as all of us in the Foreign Service family here in Vienna, of your very thoughtful and generous letter of November 19, giving us your Christmas and New Year's greetings.

All of us here, and I am sure the Foreign Service as a whole everywhere, are deeply grateful to you for the understanding which you have shown of the needs of the Service and of its problems, as well as of the very real support which you have given to the Service. We know the high ideals of public service which you hold, and the courageous manner in which you carry a burden such as probably none of your predecessors in your high office has had to carry. It is an encouraging example to all of us to meet our responsibilities in the Foreign Service, which are probably more vital now than at any time in the past.

Your generous support and appreciation are very real encouragement to every member of the Service, and I should like again to

President Franklin D. Roosevelt,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

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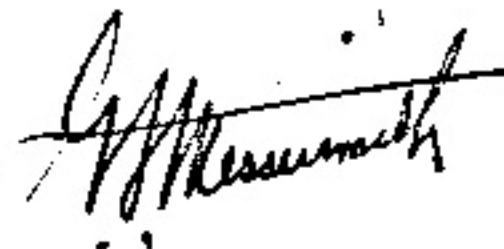
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say how deeply grateful we all are here,
and at the same time express to you and
Mrs. Roosevelt our respectful and heart-
felt wishes for a happy Christmas season
for you and your family and for a new
year filled with good things.

Believe me,

Very respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. W. Smith".

SECRET, CONFIDENTIAL

(from G.H. Macmillan)

His Excellency Reichskanzler Adolf Hitler received me at noon August 24th., 1935, in his own private Munich residence (since long before he came to power) 16 Prinzregentenplatz. That audience was preceded and concluded by two good omens, each taken from the very best that Germany has ever produced - Hindenburg and Bismarck. Under State Secretary ~~Leisner~~ (long Hindenburg's closest assistant) came to fetch me from my hotel in an automobile belonging to the deceased Field Marshal, while my audience closed by Hitler showing me Lenbach's finest picture of Bismarck, hanging right across from the desk where he writes!

Let me first of all frankly confess that this will not prove ~~an~~ a journalistic interview with Germany's Chief of State. It merely narrates a foreigner's visit to an undeniably great leader, and tells the impression he made upon this particular outsider. He was good enough to retain me for an hour and ten minutes, so many things were discussed, some of which it would both be indiscreet and ^{ob} discourteous to report.

There was no official nonsense or exaggeration about arrival, reception, or departure - no armed men in uniform ^{to} outside, ~~but~~ a member of the so-called Stormtroopers (all in black) saluted and conducted us indoors, where another one met and led us up one flight of stairs to a door with Adolf Hitler on the door-plate. In the entrance hall stood the aide de camp, - a fine well set-up German, who after a brief greeting took us in to see his chief.

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Hitler was scanning, and at once extended his hand to complete his smiling welcome. The apartment house is on a corner but a rather flattened one, and therefore Hitler's corner apartment gives the effect of swinging slightly back right and left of the central door. To the right is his writing desk, etc., but he turned to the left, where we sat down at a large table, just before an alcove room, crammed to the ceiling with books. The apartment is a comfortable one, but not too comfortable, and its furnishings are good, but not too good.

I was immediately struck by the fact that Hitler deliberately chose the seat facing the window and its bright sunlight. Then in 1921 I talked with 15 European Prime Ministers plus four Presidents, and two years later nine kings, none of them did this, nor have any leading statesmen I have since then met. This German's face and figure showed he is in perfect health - good color, but not too much, well-built, but not too heavily, good height, but not really tall.

His eye is clear, his glance is frank, his replies prompt, but limited. About what he said and how he said it, there was no July 4th, nonsense (as we call it at home) - no speechifying, such as politicians are prone to use even with an audience of one.

Especially did I notice the clarity and neatness of his German; - if all Germans spoke so, we poor foreigners would better understand them! His precision of phrase revealed operator. He evidently knows exactly what he wants

political leader in any country has ever had his text-book so widely read as has been Hitler's "Mein Kampf". But very few foreigners notice the accent he therein casts upon two things - the importance of the spoken (as contrasted with the written) word, and his constant demand for physical fitness throughout Germany. ^{himself} Well, he is a perfect example ^{both} of the finished orator, and of the physically fit. This matter of providing the *mens sana* with its *corpore sano* is as noticeable for Hitler, as it is for Mussolini, for President Roosevelt, or for President Kemal of Turkey. He showed his interest in all three of these foreign leaders several times during our talk.

He began by speaking of his eagerness for bettering the bodies of Germany's youth, and he explained why his book prefers boxing to fencing. - "only fencing was then thought correct and elegant in Germany", said he, "but, though fencing is a fine sport, it lacks the physical contacts of boxing, to say nothing of the latter's all round muscular effects." In this case, as in every other subject we touched upon, he gave reasons for the conclusions he stated.

Because I am a member of the International Olympic Committee, we naturally spoke of our 1936 Games scheduled for Berlin and Garmisch. In these he expressed keen interest. This is not the place to write of the unfortunate Jewish question or similar religious matters. Those matters touch Olympic policy and should be publicly discussed, ~~privately~~ by our Committee's President alone. But it is only fair to say that if ^{Hitler} were

understand why it strikes us as more appropriate that a Huey Long handle the struggles by Hove-Mots against Hovee rather than a Father Coughlin; - religion has far loftier duties than mixing in professional politics! Pardon this translation of German thought into American speech, and let us get back to the German *Alhrer*.

His photographers do him great injustice in two regards - they do not show enough the strength of his upper head (above the expressive eyes) and give no hint of the engaging human being he can be when he wants to be. Never until this talk with him did I understand how he gathered the personal ^{following} ~~contacted~~ that started his Nazi movement, but now I do.

When near to him, his manner of abbreviating the mustache ends seems more normal than our beloved Charlie Chaplin's chop-off. It suits Hitler's face while speaking, because revealing all the expression around the mouth, and don't forget how he values the spoken word, which means ^{that} _A a speaker's facial expression must be free to supplement what he is saying.

I ventured to present him with my book comparing Bismarck and Mussolini, and another one on ancient German Stained Glass.

How he feels about the great German and the great Italian appears from the fact that the chief adornment of his home is Bismarck's portrait, and that in his private room at Nazi headquarters - the Brown House - his two portraits of Frederick &

one companion - ^{an} bronze head of Mussolini.

The stained glass book recalled that he began earning his living as a young man by architecture studies and water color painting, and his comments on glass showed him an earnest student of Germany's mediaeval art. It is a strange, almost a Nazi fact, that, no matter under what flag old German glass is found to-day, there the people still speak German, be it Switzerland, or Alsace, or Austria. Go but a few kilometers beyond that glass, and German speech stops!

The personal neatness ~~of~~ of the man and of his home seems to echo the amazing change that has come over all of Germany since his becoming its Leader. Everywhere the country, so run down a few years ago, is as cleaned up as Holland has always been, yes - and brightened up too. Bouges have everywhere been painted, and more gayly than before, and flowers everywhere, many more than formerly. Best of all is the brightened look in the people's faces. Courage has come back to the discouraged, and the confident expression that so characterizes the Leader's face, is reflected on those of his people.

Of this general change for the better in the nation's state of mind he spoke simply and feelingly: "Germany has come back," ^{"said he,} but has not yet finished coming, and foreigners must not forget the downhearted Germany from which this Leader has lifted up the new Germany of to-day.

This long audience finished on the high note that began it - Bismarck and his portrait that dominates Hitler's home.

Nothing was greater in Bismarck's character than his grasp of foreign psychology, and his farsighted handling thereof. When I mentioned meeting Colonel Beck, now Polish Minister of Foreign Affairs, when he, as a private citizen, lunched at my Embassy in Turkey, the Reichskanzler spoke in high tones of how ideally both Colonel Beck and his Berlin representative had collaborated in bringing about the present agreeable relations between the two countries. But he modestly said nothing of what a striking piece of Bismarckian statesmanship was this Hitlerian change from the former state of affairs when the Danzig Corridor was almost "a fighting word" in Germany. It took both the foreseeing diplomacy of the Führer, plus his hold on the German people to cause Germany's agreement to drop discussion of the Corridor for ten years. But Hitler achieved it, and he is the only German since Bismarck who could have effected what the writer considers a high-water mark of recent European statesmanship.

^{read} Revealing of the man's personality ~~as what~~ ^{as} this long interview, even better was to follow.

A nation's political leader must be seen in action, if a foreigner hopes to understand his power over his people. How do they react when he speaks to them?

The reader can imagine my satisfaction when the Führer invited me to come as his guest to Nuremberg September 10th to hear him address the great Nazi rally there, - and better still to watch the effect upon them of his spoken word.

(G.H. Sheen)

Very Confidential.

Not to be Handed.

Will you please show this report to your Chief.
Am off to Nuremberg as Hitler's personal guest to hear (and
see!) him address the great Nazi rally there.

Near the close of my hour-&-10 minute Munich talk
with him, I broached the German Jew question for next
year's Olympic Games. Explosion!! Was shocked to
find he knew nothing of June 1933 letter from his
Ministerium des Innern which I secured for about
Olympic Com. and is flatly opposite to a dreadful new
anti-Jew move he had just said he projected.
My book "Bismarck & Mussolini" lay before him, & he faced
a fine haubach portrait of Bismarck. It was a test
chance, so I went right at him with question "what
Bismarck, master of foreigners' psychology, would do
today?" He was polite, but showed nothing! Had my
appeal won? — no sign!

Yesterday Tschammler von Oster (their Sportführer)
gave me (a small luncheon, given (said he) on Hitler's
telephoned orders. As Ministerium des Innern official
was present to say he had just showed copy of their
June 1933 letter to Hitler, & this lunch was to announce
he would fulfill its terms for German Jews, & that the
new move against them was dropped — thank God!

Of course it was dreadful nerve for me to tackle him in
his own Munich home, but I am only a private citizen, and
he can't eat me!

France is safe, but God help the Communist Soviets when
his army is ready!! He greatly admires Mussolini, and, upon
hearing my new book (M., T.D.R., & Kamal) is now in press
at Paris (French edition) and at Bologna (Italian edition) he
asked in detail about your Chief.

Faithfully yours

C. H. Sherill

(10 rue de Courcelles, Paris, France)
until sailing from



10 rue de Courcelles, Paris. Paris, Sept. 14, 1935
[please show your Club]
Reichsparteitag der R.S.D.A.P.
in Nürnberg 10.-16. September 1935

Just arrived in Paris after 4 very difficult days in Nuremberg as personal guest (only unofficial one) of Hitler. Constant negotiations through Tschamius von Osten (his Reichsport-führer) over the Olympic question. Finally succeeded in having Streicher (the Jew-baiter) pulled out of the whole affair, and Tschamius authorized to invite a prominent ^{German} Jew athlete to join German Olympic team. It had previously been the plan to welcome foreign teams with Jews, but have German teams. Also, Streicher's antisemitic speech at opening of his Rally was cancelled & he merely welcomed the public.

C. H. Shewell

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STATE

1935 Oct 16

AMERICAN CONSULAR SERVICE

Berlin, Germany

October 16, 1935

Dear Mr. Moore:

I am sending you herewith a copy of a letter which I have recently written to Mr. Messersmith, the American Minister in Vienna, to whom, by way of being helpful, I furnish a resume of the situation here from time to time.

The letter is brief, but defines on broad lines the present trends of German policy at home and abroad and I think a perusal of the contents might be interesting and helpful to you.

I remember with great pleasure our talks when I was home this summer. With very kindest personal regards, I am

Very faithfully yours

Raymond F. Geist
Raymond F. Geist
American Consul

Honorable Robert Walton Moore
Assistant Secretary of State
Washington, D. C.

1294

Berlin, October 7, 1935.

10-7-35

Dear Mr. Moseley:

The German Government at the present time is watching the European situation as it is affected by the Etiolo-Abyssinian dispute with a profound interest. Word has gone out to the newspapers to refrain from criticisms which might reflect unfavorably on the attitude of "splendid isolation" which has been officially assumed. The German public on the other hand is one hundred per cent back of the Abyssinians and follows the events with a passionate interest, hoping for reports of Italian reverses. The neutral attitude of the Government and the press attracts no attention; but if a pro-Italian policy were adopted and publicly appeared as such in the press it would certainly be secretly opposed by the mass of inhabitants. A few papers such as the Frankfurter Postung have not been able to conceal their disapproval of the Italian policy.

It was thought at first that the German Government would bring the Memel question to a head at the end of last month and take advantage of the strained position between England and Italy; but this appears not to be the case. The Germans are going to do nothing in a military way for the time being; though a serious outbreak of war in Europe might change the attitude of the Nazis. A high personage in the Reichswehr last year explained that Germany was not going to make any military move in any direction; that Germany would not abandon its claim to Memel and that it would not "let up" on Memel until it was reincorporated in the German Reich. The Hitler's speech at Nuremberg in this regard was the beginning of a steady campaign to this end; but the problem of Memel was bound up with all the other eastern questions, which eventually the powers would prefer to settle than have a Germany which is steadily increasing in military might and prestige, make Memel more and more a disturbing element in the complex of European peace.

A few words about the position of the Reichswehr will illuminate the actual situation. The Reichswehr is now proceeding feverishly toward perfecting its poace

strength.

strength. It is now reasonably sure that by the middle of 1936 it will have about 600,000 well trained soldiers and possess the heavy artillery which a first-class well equipped army needs. The preparations are going on according to conservative regulations and rules; no hurry or rush is evident. The usual necessary time is being allotted to the training and development of the new recruits. As to the further development of the army, that is to bringing it up to a war-time strength, probably on the same footing as it was in 1914 when Germany was able to place into the field a first-class army of 2,400,000 men, it is expected that that will be accomplished by the middle of 1938.

No one can give for the moment a clear picture of what is really going on in the highest Government circles. The situation is complicated and very much obscured. The radical element in the Party are no doubt bringing considerable pressure to bear upon Hitler and the net result of the Nuremberg rally was to increase their prestige outwardly if not inwardly. What is really going on inwardly is the great question. Hitler leans strongly toward the old party guard and he is not yielding everything to Schacht, the Reichswehr and other conservative forces. For instance I am informed that a considerable struggle is going on now between the Reichswehr and Hitler regarding the maintenance of a division of 500 men whom Hitler wants to equip with heavy arms, just as any division of the Reichswehr. This till shows lack of trust on both sides; and I understand that this "lack of trust" is very real. Nevertheless the relations between the Party-State and the Reichswehr are not being severely tested. Both sides are avoiding that; and I am informed quite reliably that if a show-down came between the Party and the military Conservative forces the Party would win. Since this opinion is shared in very responsible circles in the Reichswehr I have no doubt that it represents ^{the} actual situation. This indicates the strength of Hitler and his party. Furthermore, in spite of the lack of raw materials and the food shortage which is most appre⁴hensive to the general public no sacrifice of Nazi principles is even thought of to relieve this situation. Instead the principal Nazi leaders have

taken

taken the situation in hand and are exhorting the people to tighten their belts so that the necessary raw materials can be imported instead of food. Goebbels' speech on this subject last Saturday was brilliant contribution to this campaign.

The persecution of the Jews goes on unabated and it is reasonably certain that a good deal of actual expropriation will be increasingly resorted to. It looks as though the object is to get the Jews out of the country and confiscate their property. The most serious factor in the whole situation is the lack of raw materials; this is increasingly evident and everything possible will be resorted to to get enough foreign exchange to get the necessary raw stuffs, except there will be no change in any of the radical platforms to which the Party is committed. Bankers are prophesying financial collapse; but these statements cannot be taken seriously. The Nazis know how to muddle through and I am confident that Dr. Schacht's financial machinery will stand a good deal of strain and for a comparatively long time to come. A banker of some prominence said to me that the total extra-budgetary expenditures were not much over 11,000,000 marks; while estimates have been made up to 30 billions.

The main lines of the present policy might be summed up as follows:

1) In Home Affairs proceeding with all measures which favor the idea of the total supremacy of the State: racial, social and religious.

Preserving the supply of raw materials for armaments and work at the sacrifice of the food supply; consequently a reduced standard of living.

No change in the wage policy; but increased propaganda to placate the workers with regard to their social status in the new Germany: Kraft durch Freude, etc.

2) In

2) In Foreign Affairs: No action at the present time which would involve running military risks unless the European situation got into such difficulties that an open door stood wide ajar, and that it would be a sign of weakness not to take advantage of the opening.

Any radical change in the line-up of the great powers might create an entirely new situation for the Germans. They are quiet and conservative.

They will endeavor to establish a German-Polish-Lunghrian block; but the difficulties at present are too great - nevertheless they can see no harm in having intercourse and conversations.

Very sincerely yours,

PSF: Germany

CROSS- REFERENCE <i>(Name, number, or subject under which this form is filed)</i>		
	→	
IDENTI- FICATION OF RECORD	DATE	November 26, 1935
	TO	
	FROM	
	BRIEF SUMMARY OF CONTENTS	Address delivered by Ambassador William E. Dodd at Thanksgiving Day Dinner, Berlin, Hotel Esplanade
FILED <i>(Name, number, or subject under which the document itself is filed)</i>	Hopkins Papers, Sherwood Collection, Book 2: Interventionists # 1.	
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CROSS-REFERENCE		294 20

725 General
Germany
(s) (D)

Vienna, December 11, 1935.

Dear Mr. President:

I am deeply appreciative indeed of your cordial note of November 27, extending to Mrs. Messersmith and myself and to the officers and employees of our Government in Austria your best wishes for Christmas and the New Year. I am particularly appreciative of the generous words which you use concerning our endeavors to keep you informed of developments in this part of the world in these difficult days.

We all of us here realize the extraordinary burden which you are carrying, and are filled with admiration of the courage, vision, and wisdom with which you are carrying out the heavy responsibilities of your high office. The results of these wise efforts are already apparent in the increasingly better situation in our own country, and our wisely directed foreign policy has added to our prestige abroad. We all feel it a great privilege to be serving our Government under your wise guidance and stimulus, and are deeply appreciative of the generous support of and interest in the Foreign Service and its personnel which you have so definitely shown.

I had planned to make a brief trip home before the end of this year and to have the privilege of seeing you. I deemed it advisable, however, in view of the situation over here to postpone my trip home until the spring when I look forward with great pleasure to seeing you again.

May I on behalf of Mrs. Messersmith and myself and of the officers and employees of our Government here and their families, offer to you and Mrs. Roosevelt our heartfelt wishes for a happy Christmas season and for a New Year filled with good things.

Believe me,

Very respectfully yours,

The President
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

lyf Messersmith

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

March 9, 1936

My dear Mr. President:

I am transmitting herewith a memorandum giving a brief analysis of the action taken by the German Government in sending troops into that part of the Rhine zone which was demilitarized under the Treaty of Versailles and which demilitarization is likewise provided for in the Treaty of Locarno. This memorandum gives the pertinent clauses of the Treaty of Versailles and the Treaty of Locarno which are applicable to the German action. It likewise gives the procedure provided for under the Treaty of Locarno in the event of a violation of the restriction against the assembly of armed forces or the maintenance and construction of fortifications on the left bank of the Rhine.

It would appear from this brief analysis that the action of the German Government has constituted both a violation of the Versailles and Locarno pacts, but as far as the United States is concerned it does not appear to

The President,

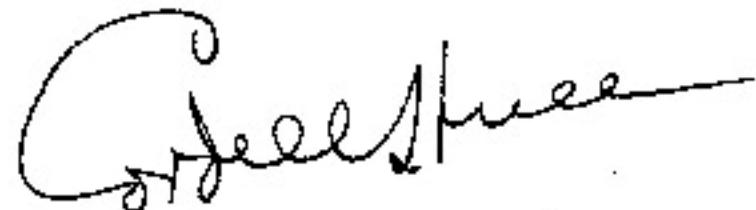
The White House.

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to constitute a violation of our treaty of August 25, 1921 with Germany, as our treaty with Germany does not include Part 3 of the Treaty of Versailles which contains the provisions for the demilitarization of the Rhineland zone.

We are continuing to watch closely the developments arising from this German action and I shall keep you currently informed of all the information which becomes available to us in the premises.

Faithfully yours,



Enclosure:
Memorandum,
March 9, 1936.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF WESTERN EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
MEMORANDUM

March 9, 1936.

The action of the German Government in sending troops into the demilitarized zone contravenes Section III of the Treaty of Versailles.

This Section reads as follows:

***ARTICLE 42.**

*Germany is forbidden to maintain or construct any fortifications either on the left bank of the Rhine or on the right bank to the west of a line drawn 50 kilometres to the East of the Rhine.

***ARTICLE 43.**

*In the area defined above the maintenance and the assembly of armed forces either permanently or temporarily, and military manoeuvres of any kind, as well as the upkeep of all permanent works for mobilization, are in the same way forbidden.

***ARTICLE 44.**

In case Germany violates in any manner whatever the provisions of Articles 42 and 43, she shall be regarded as committing a hostile act against the Powers signatory of the present Treaty and as calculated to disturb the peace of the world.

The German action in this matter is likewise an infringement of Article 1 of the Treaty of Locarno, which specifically guarantees observance of Articles 43 and 43

of

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of the Versailles Treaty. The pertinent Article of the Treaty of Locarno is quoted below:

***ARTICLE 1.**

"The high contracting parties collectively and severally guarantee, in the manner provided in the following articles, the maintenance of the territorial status quo resulting from the frontiers between Germany and Belgium and between Germany and France and the inviolability of the said frontiers as fixed by or in pursuance of the Treaty of Peace signed at Versailles on the 28th June, 1919, and also the observance of the stipulations of articles 42 and 43 of the said treaty concerning the demilitarized zone."

The Treaty of Locarno likewise indicates how infractions of its terms shall be dealt with. The procedure is outlined in Articles 4 and 5, which are quoted below:

***ARTICLE 4.**

"1. If one of the high contracting parties alleges that a violation of article 2 of the present treaty or a breach of articles 42 or 43 of the Treaty of Versailles has been or is being committed, it shall bring the question at once before the Council of the League of Nations.

"2. As soon as the Council of the League of Nations is satisfied that such violation or breach has been committed, it will notify its finding without delay to the Powers signatory of the present treaty, who severally agree that in such case they will each of them come immediately to the assistance of the Power against whom the act complained of is directed.

"3. In case of a flagrant violation of article 2 of the present treaty or of a flagrant breach of articles 42 or 43 of the Treaty of Versailles by one of the high contracting parties, each of the other contracting parties hereby undertakes immediately to

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come to the help of the party against whom such a violation or breach has been directed as soon as the said Power has been able to satisfy itself that this violation constitutes an unprovoked act of aggression and that by reason either of the crossing of the frontier or of the outbreak of hostilities or of the assembly of armed forces in the demilitarised zone immediate action is necessary. Nevertheless, the Council of the League of Nations, which will be seized of the question in accordance with the first paragraph of this article, will issue its findings, and the high contracting parties undertake to act in accordance with the recommendations of the Council provided that they are concurred in by all the members other than the representatives of the parties which have engaged in hostilities.

"ARTICLE 5:

"The provisions of article 3 of the present treaty are placed under the guarantee of the high contracting parties as provided by the following stipulations:-

"If one of the Powers referred to in article 3 refuses to submit a dispute to peaceful settlement or to comply with an arbitral or judicial decision and commits a violation of article 2 of the present treaty or a breach of articles 42 or 43 of the Treaty of Versailles, the provisions of article 4 shall apply.

"Where one of the Powers referred to in article 3 without committing a violation of article 2 of the present treaty or a breach of articles 42 or 43 of the Treaty of Versailles, refuses to submit a dispute to peaceful settlement or to comply with an arbitral or judicial decision, the other party shall bring the matter before the Council of the League of Nations, and the Council shall propose what steps shall be taken; the high contracting parties shall comply with these proposals."

Germany has likewise failed to comply with the terms of the Treaty insofar as the manner of bringing about its termination is concerned. Article 8 provides that the Treaty "shall remain in force until the Council, acting on a request of one or other of the high contracting parties

notified to the other signatory Powers three months in advance, and voting at least by a two-thirds' majority, decides that the League of Nations ensures sufficient protection to the high contracting parties; the treaty shall cease to have effect on the expiration of a period of one year from such decision."

The Treaty between the United States and Germany restoring friendly relations, signed on August 25, 1921, provides in Article II "that the rights and advantages stipulated in that Treaty (Treaty of Versailles) for the benefit of the United States, which it is intended the United States shall have and enjoy, are those defined in Section I, of Part IV, and Parts V, VI*, et cetera, et cetera.

Since Articles 43, 43 and 44 are embodied in Part III of the Treaty of Versailles "the rights and advantages" stipulated therein would not appear to apply to the United States.

For General
Reference

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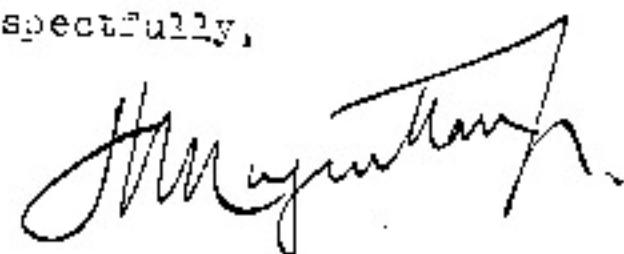
THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON

January 15, 1937

My dear Mr. President:

I am inclosing herewith extract
from Cooren's cable of January 13
reporting a conversation with Senator
whom he met at the meeting of the
directors of the Bank of International
Settlements.

Respectfully,



The President,
The White House.

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PSF: Germany

EXTRACT

I had a separate conversation with Schacht. He made reference to his article in Foreign Affairs on the question of colonies for Germany. I asked whether he had made any progress in this regard with the French and the British. The French attitude, he said, after his visit to Paris late last summer, was satisfactory; the Germans had found it entirely possible to have direct conversations with the French. The British, he said, had not yet given a definite or formal answer to Germany's plea for raw material resources although he had been most discouraged by Eden's attitude and the British rebuff to the French approach on this subject after Schacht's visit to Paris. Schacht reminded me of the Hitler Government's sincere offers for disarmament and peace. One after another of these offers, he said, including that of limiting the army to 300,000 men had either been totally ignored or had been refused. He told me he thought they might be making their last offer in the outstanding offer for peace in return for colonies. Great Britain and the world, he said, should understand that the Hitler Government is firmly established, and if there is any attempt to humble Germany the German people will be solidly behind it.

Schacht said again that it is not possible to have world peace without German peace. He emphasized the efforts and

aims of the United States toward peace: He expressed the hope that the United States would not let slip the opportunity which he says is now ours, particularly the President's, to take the lead in solving the outstanding questions of Europe, and primarily Germany's problems.

The idea of a Washington conference was mentioned by Schacht; I asked him why in Washington, and he replied that the United States has now the world's leadership and the wealth to make it effective so that other nations should be called to Washington for conference and discussion. I asked Schacht whether he had been told the scheme which had been suggested to me that day by one of my earnest Central Bank friends; i.e., for Germany to borrow from the United States to buy neutral territory from England and for the latter to apply the proceeds of the sale upon British war debt to us. This suggestion was made by Yanagita (Japan). The reply of Schacht was that he was not suggesting the measures that should be taken; however, he hopes that we would take advantage of Runciman's visit and that of another distinguished Britisher - Niemeyer, I assume - to indicate to the British that we are interested in a final and happy liquidation of the problems facing Germany.

Schacht's Basel representative, Heschler, told me

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that the atmosphere created by press accusations of German activities in Morocco had disgusted Schacht. This subject was discussed at length by Schacht and Norten. According to Heschler, Schacht told him (Heschler) that the whole press story was a pure fabrication, that Germany had sold certain supplies to France and the latter could not pay in cash; consequently there was some activity in France shipping to Germany in a barter for such supplies, ores, and other materials which could be obtained in Spanish Morocco. The affair was no more than that. Niemeyer remarked, in discussing the article of Schacht's in Foreign Affairs, that the two raw materials which are needed most by Germany, rubber and wool, are not commercially available in the colonies which Schacht is seeking.

February 6 has been set as the date for the next meeting of the B.I.S.

PSF
Germany
April 21, 1937

CONFIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM FOR
THE SECRETARY OF STATE

I have read Dodd's letter with much interest.

I am especially concerned with the possibility, even though it may not be a probability, that German food supplies will call for even more imports and that the demands for certain other raw materials like copper, steel billets and scrap steel will continue, thus forcing up our price level unduly and perhaps even causing an actual shortage in the supply for domestic consumption.

This makes it opportune for us to start an immediate study of the subject of embargoes on certain materials, such embargoes to be put into effect by Executive Order, by hearings, which seem the simplest way.

Will you, therefore, undertake this study joining to yourself such other persons from your own and other Departments as you may desire. For example, Henry Grady, as a member of the U. S. Tariff Commission, would be valuable and you would probably want someone from Commerce, Agriculture, Bureau of Mines and Central Statistical Board.

Yours

Enclosure

Returning to Sec. Hull let. addressed to him from Ambassador William E. Dodd, Berlin, Germany, 4/5/37 re situation there.

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IV, LONDON,
CHARLIE SMITH.

PSF *Germany* - 162

SEYMOUR HOUSE,
17, WATERLOO PLACE, S.W.1.

Private &
Personal.

7th May 1937.

My dear Norman,

Here are the reports of the Berlin interviews. Remember that they are for your own eye and that of the President alone.

Yours ever,

Lord Lathlain to Norman

Norman Davis C

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P.S. - Germany

INTERVIEW WITH HITLER, MAY 4TH, 1937.

Hitler received Lord Lothian and Mr. Conwell-Evans at 4 p.m. at the Chancellery in the Wilhelmstrasse, the only other person present was Dr. Schmidt, from the German Foreign Office, who acted as interpreter. Both visitors were very cordially greeted; but one had the feeling from the beginning that the Chancellor was in a grave mood; at times his tone showed traces of bitterness, if not disillusionment in regard to the more recent British attitude to Germany, nevertheless the frank discussion lasting 2½ hours indicated his earnest desire to bring about a permanent improvement and cooperation.

Lord Lothian asked what were the causes from the German point of view of the apparent deterioration of the last six months in the relations between the two countries.

The Chancellor replied that the deterioration was due in the first place to factors in the international position which affected Britain and Germany only indirectly. It arose from the different ways in which Germany and England regarded events in Abyssinia and in Spain. Another cause was the discussion of the colonial question to which he would refer later.

The divergence in the opinions of Britain and Germany on Abyssinia and Spain was explained by the fact that Communism and its gangers were regarded in a very different light in England and Germany.

Lord Lothian asked what the Abyssinian affair had to do with Communism. Hitler replied that if Italy had been defeated, Europe would have lost one of the leading protectors of its civilisation, as Italy would have become Bolshevik.

We Germans, said the Chancellor, would have understood if Britain, from the point of view of its own interests, had taken a strong line at the beginning in dissuading the Italians from embarking upon the adventure. But when the campaign had started, inter-

vention was dangerous, as it might have led to the defeat of one of the very few countries in Europe which had made itself immune from Bolshevism. If he the Chancellor had been the British Prime Minister he would have done one of two things, he would have sent two or three British battalions to Lake Tana, and defined spheres of influence in Abyssinia or he would have refrained from taking any action. To do neither of these things but on the contrary to mobilise the League of Nations with Bolshevik Russia as a leading member, was, the Chancellor felt from the beginning, to court certain failure. The French in the person of Laval had moreover given the Italians a free hand in Abyssinia, in return for which they expected the Italians to stand on the Brenner Pass, for these circumstances, Germany had not the slightest interest in opposing Italy.

Regarding Spain, the Chancellor said that the English were wrong in stating that Germany wished to get influence in Spain. "I am not interested in Spanish territory nor in its colonies" said the Chancellor. But if Bolshevism swept over that country, Germany's trade would be vitally affected. I fail to understand Great Britain's policy. If Great Britain wants to prevent outside influences from dominating Spain, she ought to support Franco. If this had been done from the beginning, the troubles in Spain would have come to a very speedy end.

The Führer in his demonstrative way grasped his brow with an air of perplexity and said that the British attitude in not wishing to support the maintenance of a national Spain completely puzzled him. Franco would have preferred England's support; France was facing a 'new Social revolution' and was not a comparable factor. Our trade relations have been gravely affected already, said the Chancellor - 15,000 Germans engaged in trade have had to leave the country. Raw materials, fruit and oil from Spain constituted our trading requirements. The Chancellor had no other interest except trade, he was not interested in seeing Hitler established in Spain. Why were these false ideas held

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about his policy. England might be able to look lightly at the ravages of Communism elsewhere, or indeed to regard its spreading with relative equanimity. If Spain went Bolshevik, followed by France, England could withdraw and rely on her Empire. We Germans had no Empire. For us the spread of Communism was a question of existence, to be or not to be (sein oder nicht sein). That was the reason for their Four Year Plan to achieve a relative independence. How could anyone believe that his attitude to national Spain was in any shape or form anti-English. He wished that England could do something more positive to assist the people of Spain, but this attitude on the part of England was no barrier to Anglo-German understanding, so far as Germany was concerned. He did not believe that Italy had any intention of setting itself down (fest setzen) in Spain. It was unfortunate this divergence in the British and German attitude, but time alone would say who was right. The Chancellor deplored most profoundly "the fantastic" stories in the British Press regarding supposed German action in Guernica. (It was clear that these tendentious reports in The Times and other papers ^{greatly} had upset the Chancellor, and accounted for the rather heavy atmosphere during the first hour of the discussion.)

The Colonial Question.

The Chancellor then proceeded to refer to what he regarded as another cause of estrangement - the colonial question. His manner became even more grave. He directed Dr. Schmidt to pay particular attention to the accuracy of the translation at this stage.

"I am not going to trouble myself with expounding the case for our own claims for colonies. I am not going to do this. It is sufficient to repeat what England says about our claims, and that is for us scarcely tolerable (schwer erträglich),"

"England says: America needs a large vast area to feed its people. Precisely. Absolutely correct. Russia needs a vast area to feed its people. Correct."

France needs her colonies for the same purpose.

Absolutely right.

England needs her Empire to feed her population.

Good. Quite right.

Holland needs her colonies to feed her people.

Belgium needs her colonies for the same purpose.

Good. Quite right.

Portugal needs her colonies to feed her people.

Good. Selbstverständlich.

But Germany, say the English, in no circumstances needs colonies to feed her people".

"This," said the Chancellor emphatically, "is absolutely intolerable (unerträglich)."

"Such a view shows neither statesmanship, nor common sense, nor a trace of political instinct".

The Chancellor did not believe that such an attitude could be maintained. The English went further. They were not content with warding off claims to territories under their control, they declare that Germany should not have any possessions at all from any other country. This was not common sense. "We were back in the atmosphere of November 1918".

"For me", continued the Chancellor, "it was doubly difficult to be faced with such an attitude. I have always been pro-English. Long before I became Chancellor, in my writing days, I advocated cooperation with England. I have never written a single line against England. I have always stood for close cooperation between the two countries". But this purely negative English attitude is intolerable (unerträglich) this stubbornness (störr) this unreasonable attitude has made us embittered (verbittert) on the German side.

One thing was clear, if the War of 1914 did not prove to be the last war, another war between the two peoples, said the Chancellor, would mean the end of the two countries. Such a

would be fought to the end, but how would it benefit those who lived after it? He was sure that common sense would triumph, and that the two peoples racially akin with the finest qualities would not commit suicide.

Lord Lothian stated that England had had no experience of Bolshevism, there had only been two Communist M.P.s. since the War. Regarding Spain, most Englishmen thought that Spain had best be left to work out its own salvation, and would find means eventually of establishing a Government characteristic of the Spanish nation, which would be neither a government of Generals nor Communist, but something ⁱⁿ between. Anglo-German friction on this subject would disappear.

Regarding the colonial question, this was inseparably mixed up with economic questions. Territorial exchange was an extremely difficult matter. But it was not right to assume that England took the view that Germany should have no colonies, colonial adjustment, though not on a large scale, was not impossible. There were other questions, particularly Eastern Europe. Lord Lothian enlarged on nationality as basic factor in the modern world, and how recognition of the right of each to existence was the corrective of the British Commonwealth, and had made possible the new relationship between U.S.A. and the South American States. Was not the establishment of a similar relationship between Germany and Eastern European States the key to the solution of Germany's European problems? If confidence could be created in Germany's will and power to respect the integrity of Eastern nations of Europe it would make an immense difference in England. Moreover was not recognition of nationality a basic principle of National Socialism? Germany's role in this sphere was clear. (The British Foreign Minister, proceeded Lothian, in his speech at Leamington had defined British Foreign Policy in an authorised statement. This was the British constitution to clearing up the situation regarding sphere of vital interest. Britain had no primary interests in Eastern Europe.

Mr. Eden had declared that England would go to war, if necessary to defend (1) the integrity of the British Empire, (2) France and Belgium if they were victims of unprovoked aggression, (3) Egypt, that meant the Suez Canal, (4) Iraq. England would necessarily regard problems elsewhere as matters of concern because in the nature of things the risk of war anywhere affected everybody. But she had no military obligations or commitments except in these four places and Mr. Eden had made that clear at Leamington.

Hitler stated that ⁱⁿ regard to the nations of Eastern Europe, no difficulties were created by him. He was entirely in favour of the independence of the Czech and other peoples. If Lothian emphasised the nationality principle what had he to say to the claims of 3.7 million Germans "Czecho-Slovakia, to the Germans of Austria, and to those of Memel".

He hoped that the Czech would appreciate the point of view expressed by Lord Lothian. They are trying to denationalise the Germans in that State, who suffer from severe discrimination. ^{They} oppression long ante-dated his coming to power. It went on years before that. It was unbearable. It may soon have to be recognised that it is unbearable.

Just as Mr. Eden laid down, proceeded Hitler, that the independence of Belgium and Egypt was a matter of direct concern to England, so Germany had similar matters of direct concern in Europe.

If Czecho-Slovakia continued as a "section" (Sektion) of the Russian State finally to suppress the Germans in Czecho-Slovakia, Germany would have to say in the same sense as Baldwin once stated regarding the British frontier being the Rhine that the German frontier lay much further east than its present position. Czecho-Slovakia is alone responsible for the unsatisfactory relations with Germany. Poland is friendly to us and would not allow her country to be an outpost of Russia. Another vital sphere is the Memel area. Conditions have improved there of late f

160,000 Germans. But if Lithuania resumes her policy of oppression, we shall not tolerate it in future. We shall move swiftly, and it will not be necessary to mobilise the entire German Army for the purpose.

Again, another vital matter which would call for action would be the restoration of the Hapsburg monarchy in Austria. Such a restoration would be in defiance of the will of 90 per cent of the people of Austria. Such a measure would be brought to nought at once. Lord Lothian's nationality principle moreover applied here. The Austrian people were not allowed to elect their government, they were ruled by a papal government which did not enjoy the confidence of the people. Austrians often stood outside the Chancellery in Berlin to show their feelings. What did Lothian think of a Government which imprisoned a citizen for laying a wreath on the grave of his (Hitler's) parents, who were Austrian subjects, his father being an Austrian civil servant?

Lord Lothian replied that England at any rate was not the obstacle here but Mussolini and the Pope. The Pope certainly, said the Chancellor, smiling. Lothian said that neither England nor Germany liked the political activities of the Pope very much, and jokingly reminded Hitler that one of France's chief supporters was the Pope. Well, said the Chancellor with a laugh, it's the lesser of two evils; he had forbidden his Ambassador to interfere with France's military operations, or to talk about National Socialism.

After this diversion, the atmosphere became considerably lighter, and there were smiles all round.

Hitler proceeded to say that no difficulties would arise from the German side in regard to Eastern Europe. But the Czechs had no right to oppress 3 million Germans. Suppose the Germans went into Sweden or Denmark, and behaved as the Czechs do, what would England say? Hitler did not see any cause for conflict with France. The Saar question was solved. With Poland, the only difficulties were created by the League of Nations wi

interference in Danzig. Germany and Poland could find a harmonious solution, if not interfered with by Geneva. We regret the conduct of the League of Nations in this matter.

Lord Lothian asked if he thought the moment propitious to continue negotiations regarding for instance the Western Pact and other questions? But he thought that personal contacts were at this time of vital importance. There was a great deal of unfounded suspicion on each side, this would disappear as soon as people came into personal contact, as the reality was so different from the conception based on reading and hearsay. Personal confidence between principals was an essential need, as the problems to be solved presented real difficulties and these could only be solved if conditions of understanding and confidence had been established between the principals. Hitler agreed. Regarding Pacts, there was one very great difficulty. A pact to renounce war should be clear and indisputable. But whenever Germany offered such a renunciatory pact (Verichts Pakt) the French, the Czechs, and the others agreed to accept only with a "but" - (aber) we have treaties, they would say, with Russia, with Czechoslovakia which require exception to be recognised. They make important exceptions to the renunciation of war. This won't do at all. Germany will only sign agreement to renounce war in the future without qualifications. The non-aggression Treaty with Poland, it is true, was open to the objection that on the Polish side renunciation was conditional. But in future Germany would insist on treaties requiring complete renunciation of war. In these conditional treaties reference was made to the League of Nations, as a controlling factor. He had no confidence in the League in this respect. This argument did not impress him. Abyssinia was a clear example of the consequence of placing one's trust in the League.

My offer, continued the Chancellor, of a non-aggression Pact to Czechoslovakia still stands, but the essential condition of its conclusion would be full satisfaction of the claims of the German minority.

Lord Lothian raised the question of the possibility of armament limitation. The Chancellor asked rather ironically would England agree now to limitation. Did we Germans start? asked the Chancellor. Germany began re-arming from the height of the small little hill the Kreuzburg (outside Berlin) and England from the Zugspitze (the highest mountain peak in Germany in Bavaria). The Chancellor went on: he had made several important offers of armament limitation, in 1934 April, air limitation, and he described the proportional strength he then offered, abolition of bombing, and of offensive weakness, he then referred to the economic Russian armament with its 7000 tanks etc. England alone, continued the Chancellor, had accepted one of these offers in the Naval Treaty.

The Chancellor proceeded to say that in spite of everything he was convinced that Great Britain would wish to be on friendly terms with Germany and cooperate closely with her. After the Spanish affair was over he hoped that England would be convinced of German loyalty in this respect. He wished to say that he the Chancellor welcomed England's gentlemen's Agreement with Italy. He was of the opinion that friendly relations between England, Italy, Japan and Germany were of the greatest value to each of these countries. He expressed the view that Japan's new position in the Asiatic Continent harmed England less than if it had pushed its expansion in other directions. Japan with a population of 90 millions had to expand in one or other direction. English interests were better served by the present position. He liked to think that the old traditional friendship between Japan and England would continue. He, Hitler, would like to encourage this friendship - he hoped that the British Government realised that his policy in this field had this aim -

of bringing about good relations and cooperation between these four Great Powers.

England and Germany should work together, the united strength of 120 million Germanic peoples would be an irresistible power. The British Sea Power, assisted by the German Fleet with its 35 per cent limitation, and the German Army, which was now unsurpassed in quality by any other country would be a powerful guarantee of peace. Others would wish to join this powerful combination, Italy would be no danger, in which circumstances, though he wished to emphasise that Italy wished to be at peace and to pursue a peaceful policy.

Lothian: How about the Rhodes idea of Germany, England and U.S.A.?

Hitler replied: Such a combination would of course be most powerful, but he doubted whether U.S.A. would depart from its policy of absolute detachment. He regretted the blunder made in 1900 when Joseph Chamberlain's offer was not accepted.

Together England and Germany could defend their vital interests with the least expenditure of effort, of preparations and so on. Their energies could be released for other purposes.

The Chancellor in conclusion turned to Mr. Connell-Evans who then said speaking in German that he was very glad to hear Herr Hitler as head of the State express his conviction that England would wish to be on friendly terms with Germany and cooperate with her. From his own observations in England, he could state that from the highest quarters to the man in the street, the view of majority in this respect could not be mistaken. There was moreover a definite improvement in this respect in British opinion; the true face of England could not be read in the newspapers. The British people yearned for good relations with Germany. When the situation had so greatly improved, as at present, some mischance such as Press reports (Guernica) gave certain evil forces an opportunity to check progress, but the growing strength of British opinion regarding

- 11 -

friendly relations with Germany was such that he felt he wished to confirm if possible the convinced beliefs of the Chancellor regarding our future relationship.

The Chancellor stated that there should be no Press reports but stated to ^{Mr} C-E that he did not object to his taking notes.

INTERVIEW WITH GENERAL GOERING.

May 4th 1937.

In receiving the two visitors, General Goering said that as Mr. Conwell-Evans spoke German there was no need of an interpreter, and a discussion of 2½ hours took place with no one else present.

General Goering wore a white uniform, and looked genial with his clear blue eyes and clear complexion. He listened with the greatest attention and seriousness and his replies were slowly delivered.

He said that Lord Lothian was one of the very very few statesmen in England who showed any sympathy for Germany's troubles. His visit to Berlin at a time when the sky was overcast with dark clouds gave him (General Goering) a glimmer of hope. Goering said that he was for co-operation with England on two grounds

(1) because he was a loyal servant of the Führer

(2) because he was himself convinced that the harmonious development of the world depended on the co-operation of these two great nations. He hoped that Germany would never seek security or never be compelled to seek other ways than the Anglo-German road.

Lothian said that he entirely agreed about the importance of Anglo-German co-operation for peace. He thought that there were two main questions facing England and Germany, Eastern and economic Europe and the colonial/question.

The difficulty regarding Eastern Europe arose from the fact that although England in the Great War fought for her own security primarily, opinion was profoundly impressed by the declarations of the leaders, and particularly of President Wilson, about freedom for all nations, and from the war arose the new nations Czechoslovakia, Finland, Poland, Yugoslavia; in the British Empire Ireland and Egypt had self-government and progress in the same direction was taking place in India and elsewhere

Nationality was a basic factor to be reckoned with. What were Germany's relations with Eastern European nations going to be? If Germany chose the right method - for it was a question of method - he understood that national socialism recognised the right of all nationalities to independence - British public opinion would be reassured and confidence would be stabilised.

Mr. Eden had shown that British vital interests did not lie in this sphere. At Leamington for the first time an attempt had been made to re-define British policy in terms of reality. In that speech the Foreign Secretary with the approval of the Cabinet had defined the points for which Great Britain would go to war and a definition of these vital interests was regarded an important contribution to peace. They were:

(1) The integrity of the British Empire. (2) The security of France and Belgium against unprovoked aggression. (3) Egypt - the Suez Canal. (4) Irak.

If a serious crisis did happen in Eastern Europe, declared Lothian, it was a matter of how British public opinion would react. It would depend on the circumstances. But if Germany could convince British public opinion that it has no intention of destroying the independence of other non-German races in Eastern Europe the situation would be immensely simplified, especially if Germany protested the Eastern States against the growing power of Russia. Lord Lothian drew the analogy of the relation between England and the Dominions, U.S.A. and the South American State, in which the principle of nationality was recognised as the necessary basis for organisation.

Secondly there was the colonial question, stated Lord Lothian. Territorial change was a formidable problem, always the most difficult. It affects the national pride and the vested interests which have grown up. England recognises that

there are two policies open to Germany :-

- (1) the Bismarckian, in which Germany's interests in Europe are paramount.
- (2) that of the Kaiser, William II, expansion across the seas involving a navy possibly superior to the British or American, and eventual conflict.

He did not think that Germany today contemplated the second policy.

On these bases Lord Lothian did not see any insuperable obstacles to closer co-operation. If confidence were established as to ultimate purposes, the response would be rapid in England, an exploration of all these questions was important, as mutual confidence would make the settlement of other questions more possible.

General Goering said he would discuss questions on the basis of realities (real basis).

Speaking with emphasis he declared what Germany's attitude is to the British Empire.

It is Germany's primary interest not to see a weakening of the British Empire. Germany has no territorial claims in the Empire. The General would go so far as to say that if the British Empire were gravely menaced, it would be Germany's interest to come to its support.

Germany, moreover, respects not only the territorial integrity of the Empire but all those English vital interests, such as the status quo in the West, Belgium, the Franco-German frontier, the Mediterranean, East Asia. But England should concentrate 100 per cent on its own interests and not pursue a doubtful policy in pursuance of the vague requirements of the League of Nations.

Germany has no sort of wish to interfere (mutterten) with English interests.

As for Colonies, continued the General, naturally Germany wishes to have colonies.

We need raw materials.

But as important, if not more important, is our legitimate influence on the Continent.

It is surely not opposed to English interest that Germany should have an interest sphere in Eastern Europe. Russia can be a menace to the British Empire in India, Persia, East Asia. A strong Germany would be valuable from the point of view of British interests.

In field of real politics, there is no great point of dispute (gegensaten). The western frontier of Germany - the Franco-German frontier is regulated for ever. It will not be changed. Even if France attacked Germany and Germany in self-defence crossed the frontier, Germany would not change that frontier unless England took part in the struggle.

These are psychological difficulties, proceeded Goering, arising from the different political regime in each country, democratic in the one - subfailed dictatorship in the other. Germany was not ruled by a dictatorship, the popular will prevailed though in a form different from that in England. We respect the British form of democracy - not the slightest difficulty would be caused by us regarding it. But we have another form of democracy more suitable to our character and tradition.

England should preserve its democracy with the greatest care - he saw signs of it weakening through the increasing power of Left forces in England, and the weakening of the Two-party system.

There were different points of view regarding Church questions. We were not against the Church or any religion - we merely attempted to prevent politics being conducted from the pulpit. There was here no fundamental difference between England and Germans.

Now regarding a full statement of the aims of German

foreign policy, there were difficulties. The relations between the British Foreign Office and the Quai d'Orsay well known. Before we made such a statement one should be assured that everything which we said today to the Foreign Office would be known to the Quai d'Orsay within twenty-four hours.

Then, however, set forth general aims.

Here is a line que non.

(1) 6 million Austrians are an organic part (Bestand Teile) of the German nation.

Austria after the war in the 1st paragraph of its constitution laid down that it was a part of the German Empire (Bestand Teile des Deutschen Reiches). Hostile powers prevented the self-determination of this people, and now a papal government holds it down. Austria is not the concern of other states.

(2) There are 4 million Germans in Czecho-Slovakia. General Goering asked what would England say if 4 million Englishmen were oppressed by Ireland. What solution would England offer?

The Germans were neither better nor worse than the English in this respect.

(3) There was Danzig, which was German.

Then General Goering proceeded, the colonial problem could be settled in a friendly way; one should also give Germany the possibility of developing trade and influence in Eastern Europe, economic agreement might recognise special spheres, and also co-operation in other spheres. England should give Germany absolute recognition of equality in regard to respect for her vital interests as Germany does in the case of England.

Lord Lothian in reply stated that England recognised that Germany was not pursuing the Kaiser's policy - the naval agreement with England was a proof of this, and was highly appreciated in England. As a national compliment England had not introduced conscription.

General Goering interposed he would not regard refraining from conscription in England as a compliment to the naval treaty - not at all. They, the Germans, did not mind a large army in Britain.

Lord Lothian continued: The imponderabilia are important as Bismarck had stated. It was not by upsetting the integrity of other nations that peace or lasting stability would be reached. Some colonial adjustment might be possible - in the West African area - but it would be fair to say that a large scale change would not be possible. The difficulties created by public opinion would be too great.

General Goering said that Lord Lothian's principle of nationality should apply to Austria. What would Lothian say if the Austrian people elected to become, in some way, into the German Empire, against the protests alone of the Austrian Government. Here no question of war would arise. It was a case of the people's will.

In passing Goering stated that no Austrian would ever take up arms against Germany - if war broke out the Austrians would come over with flying colours to the German side.

Applying further the principles set out by Lothian, Goering said that the relations between Germany and Yugoslavia fully answered to these. They enjoyed the very best relations with that country, and would come to its aid were it attacked by any country, Italy, Russia or Hungary. They had also excellent commercial relations with that country.

With Poland, and Czecho-Slovakia the position was not so clear. French influence was active. Both countries suffered from a bad conscience because each contained millions of German citizens, and for that reason Germany was regarded as a menace.

Czecho-Slovakia was so much under Russian influence (in Russischen Fahrwasser) that a change in the sense suggested by

Lothian was quite impossible.

Poland might perhaps offer wholly friendly relations one day, but Czechoslovakia never.

General Goering continued: Lothian should understand that England is a saturated power.

But from Germany everything had been taken away; Germany lived in narrow confines, with a growing population, 500,000 surplus births over deaths, increasing soon to a million.

What is going to happen to us? England should agree that an agreement must be a fair and a real one, an agreement requiring Germany to renounce all her claims would be of no value.

The Germans would not follow the policy of William II.

They were not going in for a strong Navy. The naval Treaty was a proof of this attitude.

England had distributed its peoples across the world. Was it going to object to Germany a modest solution of its difficulties?

Lothian seemed to have proposed a small change in colonial matters, as for the rest, things were to remain as before.

Germany was to renounce her claims to Austria and so on.

Such a one-sided proposal was no pact, provided no basis for an understanding.

Goering proceeded that he regretted to see British policy weakened by a hypnotic fear of Germany - Britain had lost a great deal in all directions because it had allowed itself to fall under this most unfortunate hypnosis - that was the cause of its failure in the Abyssinian affair and he could name some others. It misinterpreted on that account Germany's pursuance of friendly relations with Italy and Japan.

Goering further stated that a feeling was be-

which he deplored.

The ordinary German was beginning to feel that whenever the German hand "plucked a feather from a goose, the English boot was immediately applied to kick the German hand away". England, in the ordinary German's mind, might soon be regarded as the country which opposed Germany's claims to colonies, to Germany's rights in Eastern Europe, that England stood in Prague preventing a solution of the German question in Czecho-Slovakia; that England prevented a just solution of Austria, of Danzig and Memel and so on. This was extremely dangerous. He hoped that such a policy would not continue. The German Government was doing everything to prevent the spreading of this feeling, because it laid such tremendous value on Anglo-German cooperation. He begged Lord Lothian to realise that the two countries should not let themselves drift to disaster. He spoke with great earnestness. Germany was not a menace to Britain, why therefore did Britain pursue this policy against Germany. With Britain Goering wished to co-operate. He felt it to be somewhat awkward and against the grain (wickmarks) to co-operate with Italy; it was not what they primarily wished, but it was better than having no friends at all.

He declared with the utmost solemnity that Germany at the present time had no agreement (alliance) with any country, neither with Japan nor with Italy.

Nothing is lost yet, continued General Goering. But England should be the first country to appreciate the fact that Germany would not allow her people to be oppressed. Germany should be treated as a real Partner with the responsibilities of "working" Partner of equal rank.

Lord Lothian in reply agreed that we had reached a dangerous stage. At the beginning of the century England and Germany had drifted apart and each had begun to look to

Do not let us repeat that tragedy. Where were the real difficulties? There was a difference of opinion as to the extent of colonial adjustment. But England regarded Eastern Europe as Germany's sphere, provided Germany would be the protector of the independence of the small nations. It seemed to him the question narrowed down to their detachment from dependence on France and Russia but that would only be possible if Germany guaranteed their independence. With this conclusion Goering most emphatically agreed and said in reply to Lothier that in a Czecho-Slovakia friendly to Germany under these circumstances, the Sudeten Deutschen Problem (the German minority) would be readily solved without territorial changes.

General Goering was so interested in the discussion that despite the warnings of his Adjutants he allowed himself to be late for lunch with the Fuehrer.

He had returned from Italy the previous day.

DR. SCHACHT. May 6th 1937.

At the Reichsbank. Present Lord Lothian & Mr. Conwell Evans.

Lord Lothian repeated the views he had placed before the Fuehrer and Goering regarding the need for establishing confidence (see previous pages).

Dr. Schacht said he was glad that the visit to him showed some appreciation of the business world, as too often importance was attached to Nationalism and to Socialism, but ^{not} to those people who paid for both. England should encourage the business people in Germany to play their rightful part. Now through control, and also the vast scale public work scheme, they were rather in the background.

Replying to Lord Lothian's remarks regarding the integrity of Eastern nations, Schacht said that the old National Socialist policy of looking towards the East was losing its appeal even among the party leaders. It had no reality.

Poland was an over-populated country, so was Czecho-Slovakia, Austria and other states. Even Western Russia was over-populated. What could Germany do with such countries, poor too in other respects, lacking in raw materials needed by her and without any great agricultural supplies for export. Moreover territorial expansion meant war, a very costly means for a very doubtful result. War was the most fatal of all methods. But the idea of self-determination should also be applied to Germans as to ~~themselves~~ other peoples, the Germans in Austria for instance. As for Czecho-Slovakia the name was an offence to the Germans of Bohemia. Czecho-Slovakia was an artificial creation of the peace treaties. It ^{was not} masked an ancient nationality at all. No German would ever call himself a Czecho-Slovakian. The inhabitants were German, Czechs and Slovaks. At the same time Schacht stated that the Germans in Czecho-Slovakia given cultural autonomy should remain in that country. He did not approve of secession.

Schacht proceeded to draw a picture of a Germany

100

million people and growing.

What is to happen to her? She needs to be fed. Her position is unique among great States. She need not be concerned with the little States all of whom can practically feed themselves.

Consider, however, the position. All great states except Germany can feed themselves. U.S.A. Russia. France with her colonies, Great Britain with the Empire. Germany alone is closely confined to a narrow space and deprived of a sea position. She needs Colonies: What colonies? It is natural to answer her former colonies, though she would not insist upon these if she were given equivalents elsewhere. All countries should contribute. Roosevelt might take the lead in calling for a contribution to the solution of Germany's economic problems to which many countries would contribute. He would contribute under the head of war debts. This was not a small matter.

It was a vital matter. The peace of the world was involved in finding a solution and if the nations knew that by these relatively important concessions they would assure peace they would readily pay the price. People objected on grounds of strategy. On the contrary Germany's colonies would be so many hostages to fortune, particularly in view of the Anglo-German naval Treaty.

Besides, Schacht would undertake to accept the most binding restrictions. They would not insist upon sovereignty provided Germany would be in charge of economic arrangements.

Schacht thought if refusal was persisted in, Hitler would come to the view and might state publicly, namely that "He, Hitler, had again and again attempted to arrive at a peaceful settlement with England, had again and again offered a peaceful solution of the colonial question. This had been refused. He would then add that the responsibility for maintaining peace was no longer his."

Schacht proceeded to allude to Amory's advice to Germany - you can't have colonies, but Eastern Europe lies before

This was most inhuman advice. While England sits in the midst of peace and plenty, Germany was being advised by Englishmen to make war against Eastern countries to divert her energies from constructive tasks. Germany did not intend to do so.

Lothian repeated his arguments that the key to the solution of Germany's problems in Europe was unreserved acceptance of the sovereignty of these nations. Then as in the case of U.S.A. and in Great Britain a real economic solution would be possible and Eastern Europe would be safe under German protection.

Schacht said that offered no difficulty. Of course the treatment of Germans in Czecho-Slovakia was the cause of serious difficulties, there was Danzig and Austria. As for the rest, where should difficulties arise?

Lothian said that there was now so much suspicion about that there was urgent need of personal contacts between responsible people.

Schacht said that he would be prepared at any time to come to England. He thought personal contacts should be between Ministers. He deprecated long preparation of public opinion as a prior condition to meetings - public opinion would be best educated by meetings of responsible people in the near future.

Schacht continued: if Germany lived under normal conditions of economic opportunity, all the rather strange ideas, anti-semitism, racialism, would disappear. They are the result of the terrible pressure and privation which the German population has had to bear since Versailles. Normal conditions would bring normal thoughts. English were wrong in repressing Germany to become normal first. When you are normal we will do something to alleviate the situation. It was the other way round.

We had tried methods of persuasion, of fulfi

bowing and scraping. Think of the efforts of Muller, Stresemann and Bruning. I would not have voted for Hitler in 1923, but I did in 1930 as did every decent German likewise.

Schacht agreed that the handling of the Jewish question was wrong, but something had to be done to reduce the Jewish domination of the German national and cultural life.

Schacht warmly approved that personal contacts should be established. The need was urgent, and the time was short.

Mr. [unclear] P. Germany
THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

December 16, 1937

My dear Mr. President:

The British Ambassador yesterday gave me for our confidential information the memorandum which I attach herewith. This memorandum covers the conversations between Lord Halifax and Hitler as related by the former to the French Prime Minister and Foreign Minister on the occasion of the visit of the latter to London on November 29 last. I think you will want to read it.

I also enclose a memorandum of my conversation with the German Ambassador on November 29 relating to the same topic. You will notice that the German Government advised us confidentially of the results of these conversations a

The President,

The White House.

1294

considerable time prior to the date upon which the British Government gave us information with regard thereto.

I think you will consider as particularly significant the statements made by Hitler to the effect that he was willing to agree immediately to qualitative limitations upon armaments although that phase of the conversations is barely mentioned in the British version of the conversations.

Believe me

Faithfully yours,

Encls.

VO2

6-2
1/8/38
January 8, 1938.

Memo from Sec. Hull to President

Encloses clippings and memorandum on answer to
Pres. request for quotations from Goering and
Mussolini concerning democracies.

SEE--Cordell Hull--Drawer 1--1938

1294

Germany
Feb. 10, 1938.

Pres. Memo to Admiral Leahy--attachments excerpt from Col Lindbergs' letter on German Aviation--~~and~~ of planes etc. for his information
Leahys reply attached also memo from J. Kennedy and Gray

SEE--Navy folder-Drawer 1--1938

Will Henderson

oral account of a conversation on March 3rd between Sir N. Henderson and Herr Hitler at which Herr von Ribbentrop was present. The latter is coming to London for two or three days this week when Lord Halifax will have a conversation with him.

SEE--Sumner Welles folder-Drawer 1--1938

1294

1750

Germany. 1938



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

In reply refer to
PR 862.0011/74

March 11, 1938

My dear Mr. McIntyre:

I am enclosing herewith a letter from Prince Louis Ferdinand of Prussia addressed to the President, which was forwarded to the Department by the American Embassy at Berlin.

The Embassy states that this is a letter of thanks to the President for the good wishes expressed in his letter of January 12, which was delivered to the Prince through the Embassy.

Sincerely yours,

George J. Thompson
Chief of Protocol.

Enclosure:
Letter.

The Honorable

Marvin H. McIntyre,

Secretary to the President,

The White House.

1294

301

LF

Berlin, 2-14-38

Dear Excellency:

Please let me thank you most heartily, also in
Kira's name, for you
and Mrs. Roosevelt's wishes
which both of us were very
happy to receive. It was so
generously nice of you
to write a letter in spite
of the tremendous burden of
work which you have got
to carry.

We are planning

honeymoon trip and both
hope it will take us to the
U. S. A., a country Kiva
and I sincerely adore.

It certainly will be a very
great pleasure for both of
us to call on you and
Mrs. Roosevelt.

With my most respectful
regards and best wishes
I am always yours
very sincerely

Louis Ferdinand.

PRESIDENT'S SECRETARY'S FILE:
Diplomatic Correspondence w/ Germany: 1939

PSF (1939) *John Foster Dulles*
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

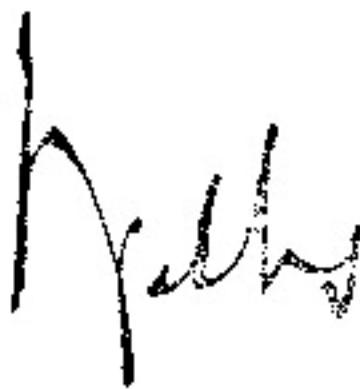
January 3, 1939

My dear Mr. President:

I have received today a personal letter from our Charge d'Affaires in Paris of which I am enclosing a copy for your information. I believe you will find it of interest.

Believe me

Faithfully yours,



Enc.

The President,
The White House.

COPY

EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Paris, December 21, 1938.

Personal and Confidential

Dear Mr. Welles:

A friend in whom I have entire confidence, and who happens to have close relations with the German Ambassador, tells me the following:

At the German Embassy reception for von Ribbentrop the night of December 7, he was told by members of the German Embassy that there would be a startling publication in the Berlin press the following morning. He asked what it would be. In reply, he was told that it would be the text of the letter sent a few days previously by Hitler personally to Mussolini assuring the latter of full German support for Italian claims against France in the Mediterranean area. My friend was incredulous, said that he could not believe it, that it was against all common sense since what Hitler wanted was, of course, to keep France chloroformed so that his back door would be quiet at the time when he would open up matters in Eastern Europe. The

The Honorable Sumner Welles,
Acting Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

members of the German Embassy reaffirmed their statement and advised him to get the news from Berlin the following morning.

A few minutes later, my friend ran into Friedrich Sieburg, the Paris correspondent of the FRANKFURTER ZEITUNG, - one of the outstanding German correspondents abroad, so I am told, and a close friend of von Ribbentrop. Sieburg took my friend into a corner and "holding his head in his hands" said: "This will make the most awful mess. Ribbentrop has just received the news and he is going to get Hitler on the telephone and try to dissuade him from this mad publication."

The next morning my friend listened to the German radio news and heard nothing alarming. He then went to see his friends at the German Embassy and asked what it was all about. They told him that Ribbentrop had spoken with Hitler during the night and had dissuaded him from the publication of the letter, pointing out that it would undo everything which he, Ribbentrop, had been trying to accomplish by his Paris visit. My friend was again told categorically that it was a fact that such a letter had been sent a few days previously to Mussolini, and it was added that a copy of the letter was in the German Embassy here. My friend again expressed incredulity that it had

been Hitler's intention to publish the letter. He was told that Hitler had made the decision himself, while von Ribbentrop was in Paris, and that the only reason for such an amazing decision which the German Embassy here could figure out was "a sentimental one" of gratitude felt by Hitler for the great assistance rendered him by Mussolini in the past. They assumed that Mussolini had asked that the letter be published and that Hitler had felt that he could not refuse. They added that it would be a mistake to underestimate the strength of this "sentimental feeling" of gratitude which Hitler entertains for Mussolini.

I must confess that I am puzzled by this story. It seems utterly fantastic. Yet the friend who repeated it to me is someone I have known for many years, who obtains sound information occasionally, and when he does communicates it to me; he has never misled me in the information which he has given me.

With all best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

EDWIN C. WILSON

German American

German American Bund
(Amerikadeutscher Volksbund)

A book of charts in color and the duties
of the German American to the Reich,

Lotto- "Obligated to America but Tied
to Germany"

See Drawer 4-1939 (black leather bound book)

PSF:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

November 16, 1939

My dear Mr. President:

I enclose as of possible interest a list of German
merchant vessels in ports in the Americas, reported at
sea, or reported to have been captured, sunk, or
scuttled since their departure from ports in the
American republics.

Faithfully yours,

Enclosure:

Memorandum of
November 14, 1939,
"German Merchant
Vessels in the
Americas".

The President,
The White House.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION (U-L
BUREAU (

ENCLOSURE

TO

LETTER DRAFTED

ADDRESSED TO

The President

PSF:QW

GERMAN MERCHANT VESSELS IN THE AMERICAS

November 14, 1939.

German Merchant Vessels in Port

<u>Country & Port</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Names</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Gross Tons</u>	<u>Owners</u>
Argentina	3				
Bahia Blanca (Ingeniero)	1	Uagukuma	Pass-cargo	7634	D.O.A.L.
Buenos Aires	2	Anatolia Nienburg	Cargo Pass-cargo	2446 4318	N.D.L. N.D.L.
Brazil	16				
Bahia	3	Antonio Delfino Bahia Maceio	Pass-cargo Cargo Cargo	13589 4117 3235	H.S.A.L. H.S.A.L. H.S.A.L.
Para	2	Norderney Königsberg	Cargo Cargo	3667 6466	N.D.L. N.D.L.
Pernambuco	3	São Paulo Uruguay Wolfsburg	Cargo Cargo Cargo	4977 5846 6201	H.S.A.L. H.S.A.L. Hansa Line
Rio de Janeiro	5	Bahia Blanca Bollwerk La Coruna Minden Santos	Cargo Cargo Pass-cargo Pass-cargo Pass-cargo	8558 4173 7414 4165 5943	H.S.A.L. Aug. Bolton Wm. Miller's NACHF H.S.A.L. N.D.L. H.S.A.L.
Rio Grande do Sul	2	Montevideo Rio Grande	Cargo Cargo	6075 6062	H.S.A.L. H.S.A.L.
Santos	1	Babitonga	Pass-cargo	4422	Hapag

Notes

N.D.L. refers to Norddeutscher Lloyd (North German Lloyd)
 Hapag refers to Hamburg-Amerikanische Packetfahrt A.-O.
 (Hamburg American Line)

H.S.A.L. refers to Hamburg-Sudamerikanische Dampfs Ges.
 (Hamburg-South American Line)

D.O.A.L. refers to German East Africa Line (Deutsche Ost-Africa Line)

Information on type, tonnage and ownership from Lloyd's Register of Shipping.

<u>Country & Port</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Gross Tons</u>	<u>Owners</u>
Chile	6				
Coquimbo	1	Portland	Pass-cargo	7132	Hapag
Puerto Montt	1	Erlangen*1	Cargo	6101	N.D.L.
Talcahuano	2	Frankfurt	Cargo	5522	N.D.L.
		Osorno	Pass-cargo	6951	Hapag
Valparaiso	2	Dusseldorf	Pass-cargo	4930	N.D.L.
		Priwall	Sail	3185	Reederei F. Laclez G.M.B.H.
Colombia	1				
Puerto Colombia	1	Helgoland	Cargo	3664	N.D.L.
Costa Rica	3				
Punta Arenas	3	Eisenach	Pass-cargo	4177	N.D.L.
		Stella	Cargo	479	Dampfs. Ges. Neptun
		Weser	Pass-cargo	9179	N.D.L.
Cuba	0				
Dominican Republic	0				
Ecuador	3				
Guayaquil	3	Bogotá	Cargo	1230	N.D.L.
		Cerigo	Pass-cargo	1120	Hapag
		Quito	Cargo	1230	N.D.L.
Guatemala	0				
Haiti	0				
Honduras	0				
Mexico	9				
Manzanillo	1	Havelland	Pass-cargo	6334	Hapag
Puerto Mexico	1	Tine Asmussen	Tanker	6795	J. Haltermann
Tampico	4	Idarwald	Cargo	5033	Hapag
		Orinoco	Pass-cargo	9660	Hapag
		Phrygia	Cargo	4137	Hapag
		Rhein	Pass-cargo	6031	Hapag

*1 Arrived November 12, 97 days out from New Zealand.

<u>Country & Port</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Names</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Gross Tons</u>	<u>Owners</u>
Mexico (cont'd)					
Veracruz	3	Arauca Columbus Hamein	Cargo Passenger Pass-cargo	4350 32581 4174	Hapag N.D.L. N.D.L.
Netherlands					
West Indies	16				
Aruba	4	Antilla Consul Horn Heidelberg Troja	Cargo Cargo Pass-cargo Cargo	4400 7772 6530 2390	Hapag H. C. Horn Hapag Hapag
Curaçao	12	Alemania Este Frisia Hannover Henry Horn Karibia Mimi Horn Nordmeer Patricia Seattle Vancouver Wesermunde	Cargo Pass-cargo Cargo Pass-cargo Pass-cargo Cargo Pass-cargo Cargo Cargo Pass-cargo Pass-cargo Cargo	1383 7915 561 5600 3164 428 4007 5671 3979 7369 8269 5356	Hapag N.D.L. Hapag N.D.L. H. C. Horn H. C. Horn H. C. Horn John T. Essberger Hapag Hapag Hapag "Union" Handels- M. Schiff G.M.B.H.
Nicaragua	0				
Panama	0				
Peru	6				
Callao	5	Hermonthis Leipzig Monserrate Munchen Rhakotis	Pass-cargo Pass-cargo Pass-cargo Pass-cargo Pass-cargo	4633 5898 5578 5619 6753	Hapag N.D.L. Hapag N.D.L. Hapag
Paita	1	Friesland	Cargo	6310	Hapag
Salvador	0				
Surinam	1				
Paramaribo	1	Goslar	Cargo	6040	N.D.L.
United States	1				
Boston	1	Pauline Friederich	Tanker	4733	Reederei Eugen Friederich

...4...

<u>Country & Port</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Names</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Gross Tons</u>	<u>Owners</u>
Venezuela	2				
Maracaibo	1	Durazzo	Pass-cargo	1153	Hapag
Puerto Cabello	1	Sesostris	Pass-cargo	3987	Hapag

Recapitulation as to vessels in port

<u>Country</u>	<u>No. Vessels</u>	<u>Total Tonnage</u>
Argentina	3	13,598
Brazil	16	94,910
Chile	6	33,821
Colombia	1	3,664
Costa Rica	3	13,835
Ecuador	3	3,580
Mexico	9	79,095
Netherlands West Indies	16	71,530
Peru	6	34,991
Surinam	1	6,040
United States	1	4,733
Venezuela	2	<u>5,140</u>
	67	365,937

German Merchant Ships at Sea

<u>Name</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Gross Tons</u>	<u>Owners</u>
Bahia Laura ¹	Cargo	8651	H.S.A.L.
Bertha Fisser ²	Cargo	4110	Fisser & Doornum Reederei G.M.B.H.

¹ Sailed from Montevideo October 17.

² * * Pernambuco October 24.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Gross Tons</u>	<u>Owners</u>
Borkum ³	Cargo	3670	N.D.L.
Curitybia ⁴	Cargo	4969	H.S.A.L.
Dresden ⁵	Pass-cargo	5567	N.D.L.
Entrerios ²	Cargo	5179	H.S.A.L.
Kerstein-Miles ⁶	Cargo	4971	Hansatishche Reederei Emil Offen & Co.
Lahn ⁷	Pass-cargo	8498	N.D.L.
Monte Pascoal ⁸	Pass-cargo	13870	H.S.A.L.
Monte Olivia ⁹	Pass-cargo	13750	H.S.A.L.
Patagonia ⁶	Cargo	5898	H.S.A.L.
Porto Alegre ⁹	Cargo	6105	H.S.A.L.
Schwaben ⁷	Pass-cargo	7773	N.D.L.
Tacoma ⁷	Pass-cargo	8268	Hapag
Tijuca ⁴	Cargo	5918	H.S.A.L.
Wakamalo	Cargo	3771	Woermann Line

²Sailed from Pernambuco October 24

³ " " Montevideo October 10

⁴ " " Pernambuco September 21

⁵ " " Valparaiso October 19

⁶ " " Montevideo September 16

⁷ " " Talcahuano November 9

⁸ " " Buenos Aires September 9

⁹ " " Santos October 16

¹⁰ " " Rio de Janeiro after September 12, date uncertain.

German Merchant Ships Reported Captured or Sunk by
British Navy, or Scuttled, since September 3, 1939

<u>Name</u>	<u>Port of Departure</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Gross Tons</u>	<u>Owner</u>
Cap Norte	Pernambuco (Sept. 21)	Pass-cargo	13615	H.S.A.L.
Emmy Friederich	Tampico (Oct. 20)	Tanker	4327	Reederei Eugen Friederich
Gonzenheim	Montevideo (Sept. 16)	Cargo	4574	Unterweser Reederei
Meckleburg* ¹	Pernambuco (Oct. 14)	Cargo	7892	Hapag
Parana* ¹	Buenos Aires (early Oct.)	Cargo	6038	H.S.A.L.
Poseiden	Mar del Plata (Oct. 17)	Cargo	6864	Reederei F. Laczsz
Rheingold	Bahia (Sept. 27)	Cargo	5055	G.M.B.H.
Santa Fe	Rio de Janeiro (Sept. 28)	Cargo	4627	H. Vogemann H.S.A.L.

*¹Press report, November 14.

PS-1

Berlin, November 18, 1939.

My dear Mr. President:

I know that you must realize with what gratification we have read your letter of appreciation.

The circumstances in which we work confront us constantly with the realization of our deficiencies and omissions and your word that your Embassy here has nevertheless been of service to you has sounded a note of encouragement which is deeply significant to all of us. That you should have paused in the course of your great work to send us that encouragement has given us fresh incentive and revitalized our efforts.

I speak for myself and for the staff of the

Embassy

The President,

The White House.

-2-

Embassy in expressing to you our gratitude.

Very faithfully yours,

Alexander Kirk.

December 9, 1939.

MEMO FOR THE PRESIDENT FROM CAPT. CALLAGHAN

Attaches summary of the latest information on
German magnetic mines.

See: Navy folder-Drawer 1-1939

PSF:Barney

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
SEATTLE

*File
Private and Confidential*

January 10, 1939

Mr. Thomas J. Corcoran
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C.

Dear Tom:

The enclosed comes to me from a source
of the highest importance, and I think you may
like to make it known in appropriate quarters.

Isn't it grand to see how admirably the
nomination has been received everywhere?

My love to you and Ben,

Ever yours,

Harold

PSF: Germany

Q&A

December 19, 1938

A german friend of mine of long standing has just arrived in this country. He is a person whose character and competence I can vouch for without qualification. He brings information of greatest interest.

This friend has been very highly placed in German aviation service. He is a man of high standing and absolute dependability with exceptional powers of observation. His contacts actually reach to Hitler's personal entourage as well as high places in the army and navy.

He confirms much that was said about the fake mobilization march through Berlin on the 30th of September. He tells me that it was arranged by Hitler to test public opinion, that Goebbels assured him that the people were behind him and that the millions of streamers that Goebbels issued were being neglected. Some of Hitler's entourage began to have misgivings and were even suspicious, and Hitler himself, that there could be trouble in Germany if they actually started hostilities. On the 30th, Hitler had three long and violent crying spells—two of them quite hysterical.

The friend referred to above compared this mobilization in detail with the similar mobilization in 1914 at which he was present. The resolution and enthusiasm at that moment, as you will recall, was overwhelming; but the procession of the 30th of September this year which took three hours and five minutes to pass a given point in the Wilhelmstrasse, was received in melancholy silence. During the entire evening, my friend did not hear one single mark of applause or goodwill; but, surprising enough, on a number of occasions, murmers of disapproval and quite frequently a shout, "Hell Moscow." In the dark, the police could not locate the shouters and made no real effort to do so contenting themselves by shouting, "Shut up," at the various disturbers. One of them was asked if he was really for the Soviet. He said, "No, but I am against this."

More important is the information about the condition of the aviation service. Specific orders were issued to some of the commanders that, in case of eventualities, they could not count on any replacement whatever of motors; many were informed that their immediate supply of aviation gasoline could not be replenished. He tells me that machines are being turned out so fast that there are a shocking number of accidents; wings are being torn off, propeller blades break loose. These delicate machines are easily damaged and are partly incapacitated. The best new German machines are, of course, superbly designed but they are being built too rapidly and, what is more serious, they are too fast and too delicate to be managed by aviators of brief training. My informant is a superb flyer with a notable war record. He has himself built airplane factories and organized and directed aviation schools. He says that it would take three years to train a man sufficiently to handle one of these machines properly and, even then, he would have to be a man of exceptional talent. He says not four per cent of the present

aviators are adequate to their task, that the machines are being delivered far faster than the personnel can be developed and that there are no personnel reserves. They have designed an enormous volume of fire for some of these machines but the more experienced men in the service are in despair over the lack of any plan to keep the ammunition supply adequate for the prospective consumption. Moreover, the bursts of fire consume such a volume that the plane may easily exhaust its ammunition too soon under combat conditions.

One of the most responsible men in the aviation service told him that, if actual eventualities came, the German air force might be able to inflict considerable damage and have the upper hand but only for a few hours. A very high officer in the Reichwehr stated at the end of September, "If war comes, we shall have our hands full with the Czechs. We can beat them but it is going to be tough. But, we are lost if even a single other power comes in. If they do, we can only pray God it will be short."

Quite as interesting is the information from the army, that the beginning of hostilities would have been the occasion of a real crack-up in the German army. Liberals and radicals were heart sick and dismayed when Chamberlain collapsed. One said that it was the blackest day for Germany since the Versailles Treaty was signed.

Also of interest is the evidence that the present monstrous cruelties against the Jews have revolted the German people thoroughly and deeply. My friend knows of actual cases, giving the names and places, of assistance to refugees by people high both in the army and the navy, and even cases of storm troopers assisting Jews over the border.

One amusing feature of the situation is the abnormal increase in the sales of tea-cosies. These are now used very widely in Berlin to place over the telephone as it has been found that the Police have discovered a way to tap telephones and listen in although the receiver is still on the hook. To clasp the tea-cosy over the telephone is the normal preliminary to conversation.



THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

PSF, Germany

AMERICAN EMBASSY

Personal and Confidential
London, January 11, 1939.

PERSONAL and CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Summer:

I enclose two copies of a confidential report which has just been given me at the Foreign Office with the explanation that it is the body of a despatch from one of their most reliable reporters in Germany. It was stated that they have every reason to believe that the account of mistreatment of Jews in concentration camps in this report is accurate. They felt that it would be of interest to appropriate officials in the Department, and the hope was expressed that a copy might be made available to the President.

Yours sincerely,

Herschel Johnson
Herschel X

Enclosures:

Two copies of report.

The Honorable Sumner Welles,
Under Secretary of State,
Department of State,
WASHINGTON.

*RECEIVED
UNCLAS*

While the German Government has somewhat half-heartedly put it about that the action against the Jews, the burning of the synagogues, the smashing of shops and private residences, the assaults and looting were the work of the populace, incensed by the death of Herr von Rath, it will be difficult to disclaim responsibility for the systematic treatment on a large scale by S.S. and regular police of the persons arrested. But some of the following facts, though unpleasant reading, should be known in order to throw more light on this aspect of the question. Those who have been released from the camps have been threatened with dire consequences if they divulge what happened there. These facts, however, have been related by a great number of people independently of each other, and they could not all invent the same lies, at the same time, about the same events.

Those foreigners who have known the German people for many years, and who believed that they understood the German character, have been made to realise the existence of a facet of the German character which they had previously not suspected. Germans seem to have no cruelty in their make-up. They are habitually kind to animals, to children, to the aged and infirm. The explanation of this outbreak of sadistic cruelty may be that sexual perversion, and in particular homo-sexuality, are very prevalent in Germany.

and it is realised by many that if the government of Germany depended on the suffrage of the people, those in power and responsible for these outrages would be swept away by a storm of indignation, if not put up against a wall and shot.

A typical case of official ill-treatment is that of a Jewish business man, who fought in the trenches during the war. This man was one day rung up by the Secret Police and ordered to stay at home. He was fetched that afternoon. He asked for permission to take a change of linen and some warm underwear with him. This was refused, but he was told to bring some money. He was taken to the nearest police station and was kept there until a sufficient number had collected to fill a motor lorry. He was then driven to a large public hall, outside which a large crowd had gathered, consisting chiefly of youths and women; this crowd was engaged in hurling abuse and invective at each convoy as it arrived, although it appeared that the women did not have their heart in the demonstration and that they had been ordered to attend, in the same way as their men-folk had been ordered to bait the Jews and to work destruction. Once inside the hall he was made to turn out his pockets, and their contents - including his handkerchief - were put into an envelope and he was told that he would get his property back on his release. He was then made to line up with others, some of whom had been there since the night before without sleep, food or water to drink.

backs and lean forward until they touched the ground with their foreheads. Those who could not perform this feat were assisted by the guards, who kicked them in the back of the neck. Others were made to run round the building. Some were sick. The guards removed the vomit by taking the culprit by the scruff of the neck and wiping it away with his face and hair.

About 5 p.m. motor lorries manned by S.S. men drove up and the prisoners were driven into them with blows and kicks. They were taken across the town to a suburban railway station. When unloaded they had to go down some steps leading into a dark viaduct, giving access to the platform. The guards rained blows and kicks on all they could reach. When in the viaduct they were halted and ordered to face the walls. They thought they were about to be shot and some became hysterical. The guards passed up and down behind them kicking and beating them. Some men in mufti joined in this sport. They were then entrained for Buchenwald near Weimar. During the journey, which took several hours, the guards passed up and down knocking out teeth, bashing in heads and doling out black eyes. At Weimar they were detrained and forced with blows and kicks into over-crowded lorries. During the lorry journey they were told to keep their heads between their knees, and in that position they were belaboured with sticks.

On arrival at the camp they were driven with kicks and blows into a wire enclosure, charged with an electric

told them what he thought about the Jews. Then every man had his hair cropped and his moustache clipped off. They had great sport with the rabbis, whose religious tenets do not allow them to have their beards touched with the scissors. They were then crowded into sheds; one of these measuring about 300 ft. by 80 was made to hold about 2,500 people. This on the face of it appears impossible. The explanation is that there were tiers of bunks in the shed reaching to the ceiling, in each of which three men had to lie. One prisoner, a cultured man, who had been an officer in the German army during the war, had to sleep for sixteen nights in one of these bunks between two cattle drovers. They had to lie sideways, and when they wished to turn over in order to relax, they had to do so in unison.

The camp at Buchenwald was at that time under construction and this added to the discomforts. No water was laid on, and there were no latrines. The prisoners were given no water to drink the first day, and never any water for washing. One prisoner mentioned that he went for 16 days without washing except when he collected some rain water. On the second day the new inmate was given a drink of hot water, flavoured to represent coffee, and some bread. The prisoners by then were half crazy with thirst and hunger.

During the first night guards came in and picked out men at random and took them outside to be flogged. Fixed on the ground were two foot-plates to which the man's feet

up to 50 strokes, except in the case of promiscuous flogging inflicted for sport, and each guard was only allowed to inflict ten lashes lest his strength gave out. (Flogging was ordered for trifling offences, such as not jumping to attention quickly or not obeying an order. A rabbi was flogged because he refused to sign his name on the Sabbath. He was then threatened with a second flogging. His spirit was too weak, and he signed). Some died stretched between the poles. Those who survived were kicked back into the shed. In the day time the floggings took place in public as a warning to the others. Some went mad. They were then chained up and a sick tied round their heads to stifle their shouts.

During the first night men were not allowed to leave the shed to relieve nature. They used their hats. One cannot enlarge on these filthy details. Suffice it to say that men used the water which the human body generates to remove the excrements from their trousers, which they had been unable to retain. The guards had sport with all these disgusting details. I cannot spare you one other horror which shows the sadistic nature of some of the S.S. men, who are supposed to be the flower of the party manhood; they forced men to urinate into each others' mouths to give them sport.

One prisoner who had false teeth and suffered from pyorrhoea applied for an extra glass of water a day to clean his teeth and rinse his mouth. The lack of water and his

One other case has to be related: a former Prussian officer was ordered to kneel down and say: "I am a dirty Jew and a traitor to my country". He refused, and he was beaten until he did as he was told.

Among the prisoners were famous surgeons and doctors, and they worked miracles of skill and devotion. They even performed operations in urgent cases. The rabbis also proved themselves worthy of their calling. One rabbi, when offered his release, declined to leave the camp before the last of his flock. One has heard of no instances that any of the guards showed any signs of Christian charity or common humanity.

When the prisoners were released they were first examined by the camp doctor, and none with open wounds were allowed to depart. The others were shaved and then reported to the political officer, who warned them that if they divulged anything they had seen in the camp, they would do so at their peril. He added that the party would be able to strike them down even after they left Germany and wherever they might be. They were then handed back what was left of their belongings. Most articles of value had, however, disappeared and the money they had had on them was sadly reduced in amount. They were told that to complain meant accusing the S.S. of theft, and that such an accusation could be punished with a flogging. As a final insult, they had to contribute to the party Collection for Winter Help. Nearly every person

under pain of being again interned. In most cases they have signed an impossible undertaking.

When the recent action started, few knew what imprisonment meant. A number, however, committed suicide, others hid in the woods, some went to a friendly doctor and had their stomachs opened so as to be in hospital. One man, who considers that he has had a lucky escape, was roused at 4.30 on the fateful day and his wife answered the bell. When she saw the S.S. guards she became hysterical. He went to her assistance. He was knocked down and kicked in the mouth. He lost some ten teeth and had his jaw broken. He bravely demanded to see the order for his arrest. The guards went to fetch this, and in the meantime he was able to gain admittance to a hospital with his broken jaw.

It is rumoured that another drive against the Jews is imminent in January, and the 16th of that month is given as the date of the proposed fresh action. It is anticipated that on this occasion also Jewish women will be placed in the concentration camps. Jews have been warned by their friends, who claim to have inside information, to get out of Germany before that date. Further concentration camps are being built by the "Arbeitsdienst" to house some of the victims of the contemplated drive.

As far as it is possible to mitigate the plight of the Jews in Germany, the policy indicated at present is not "women and children first", but men first; they are in the concentration camps and in imminent danger of death

and /

and they are the potential bread-winners. If they die, the problem of dealing with their families will be all the more formidable.

It is requested that these facts be treated as confidential.

PSP
Her
1
Date to President
From Attorney General
Feb. 10-1939

Incloses copy of telegram which was sent to
Myron Taylor and George Rublee from Hull in
regard to the Program of Disarmament which
the German Government indicated its willingness
to carry out.

See-Palestine folder-Braser 1-1033-Foreign File

PSF
Germany
File
FEB 14 1939
THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

February 14, 1939

My dear Mr. President:

Edwin James, Managing Editor of the New York Times, has sent me the two copies of Kladderadatsch which I am enclosing herewith. I believe that you will be interested in them. They give, to my mind, a very clear indication of the way in which the present German Government is attempting to prevent the German people from appreciating the state of public opinion in the United States.

Believe me

Faithfully yours,

Enclosures.

The President,

The White House.

Nr. 5 - 92. Jahrg.
Berlin, 29. Januar 1939

Dreis 57 Pf.

Stabberadattá



„Entschuldigung: „Es wird Zeit, mich nach einem neuen Kavalier umzusehen,
der alte hat abgewirtschaftet und das nationalliberalen Kostüm sieht mir
ausgezeichnet!“

Neubau der Berliner Reichskanzlei

Das Haus des Lichts, das fühnitem Traum genügt,
der eten, deutschem Material gesügt,
steinerne Rüstung nach lieblichem Fall,
jelbstlich itali. Stärkeit überall.
So reich an Hallen schimmernd, farbenhalt,
doch auch an erster Arbeit stolz Stotz,
gewaltiges Symbol gebräzter Kraft —



Ausprahlung aller Kräfte hat's geidassst.
Ein Schöpfer über allen, stotz im Schwung
der ew'gen deutschen Überlieferung,
des Volkes großer Führer, und zugleich
der größte Barbier im geistigen Reich...
Sorgt, daß der Heil, der dieses Haus Geistebe
errichtet, ewig in ihm weiter lebe!

Selbstbestimmung, Selbstbehauptung

Sie töben wider uns, verhetzte Masse.
In Hass und Mut versetzt sie lichterloh
die Forderung, daß man uns gewähren lasse.
Dem röm'schen Freunde geht's schier ebenso.
Uns lastet Kampf mit einer fremden Rasse,
Italien wird des Friedens auch nicht froh.
Es handelt sich um Deutschlands Recht und Ehre,
ums Recht Italiens auf dem Mittelmeere.

Kampf drum den friedensfeindlichen Gewalten,
die unsres Führers Auge längst schon sah!
Wir wollen Freundschaft gern und Frieden halten
mit Frankreich, England und Amerika,
mir darf man zur Bedingung nicht gestalten,
daß deutsches Volk für Parasiten da,
daß wir uns den verderblichen Beschlüssen
des Stammes Juda seige beugen müssen.

Wohl muß es jedes stolze Volk ergrimmen,
höhnt man's als Habenichts und Bettelsknecht;
das Recht, sein Schicksal selber zu bestimmen,
ist unabdingbar, ew'ges Menschenrecht.
Vom Aufstieg abgesperrt sein — solchen schlimmen
Nachtteil erträgt kein manhaftes Geschlecht,
und der geschichtlichen Notwendigkeiten
Zubilligung läßt es sich nicht bestreiten.

Ins Blau hinaus rauscht aller Schiffe Zug,
jedes gewiß, daß straffer Wind ihm werde;
Erfolg zu gönnen fremdem Flug und Flug,
dem guten Willen macht's nicht viel Beschwerde.
Es wächst hiniuden Brod und Glück genug,
und Lebenstraum für alle hat die Erde,
und niemand soll — der status quo in Ehren! —
jungfräulicher Kraft den Platz im Raum verwehren.

Richard Borckhausen

Ein Bombenschreck



Das Erwachen des Löwen

Hand in Hand

Zur grünen Wiese

Dem Wackern Heil, der auf der deutschen Huße
den Segen Gottes arbeitend erzwingt,
ohn' Untersch' im heiligen Berufe
um seines Landes Ernährungsfreiheit ringt!
Die Städte der deutscher frische Hand erfassen,
begleiten ihn zum Sieg, Schritt für Schritt;

er steht nicht, wie in früherer Zeit, verlassen,
nicht mehr allein. Wir alle führen mit.
Bauern und Städter zu gemeinsam Fronten,
gemeinsam kämpfend, stets Gewehr bei Fuß!
So heißt den Hauer heut die Stadt willkommen.
Dem deutschen Landmann Heil und Gruß!

Die einen und die anderten

Die einen wünschen das Dunkel erhebt,
für alle Fleißigen Brot;
sie wollen gerechten Frieden der Welt,
die andern: des Friedens Tod.
Die einen wollen die Menschheit frei,
die andern: untertan
der jüdischen Kapitalistkunst
und dem demokratischen Wahns.
Sie streben voll Lüde und Hinterlist,
dass nie du Frieden erlangst,
denkt was der einen Sehnsucht ist,
ist der andern verzweifelte Angst.

Der allmächtige Schriftleiter

In einer Wochenzeitung des Sozialen Konkurs konnte man fürztlich in Zeitdruck diese Einstellung lesen: „Wegen der Fülle aktueller Nachrichten sind alle Geburten und Todesfälle um eine Woche verlegt worden. Die Redaktion.“

Der Zustrom von Abonnenten bei dem Blatt soll phänomenal sein und alle wollen irgend etwas vertragt haben.

Berechtigter Reid

Der bekannte amerikanische Kongressabgeordnete Dies erklärte, daß 4000 bis 5000 Bundesbeamte in Washington überzeugte Kommunisten seien.

Stalins Reid auf Roseneit ist bestreitigt, denn über soviel überzeugte Kommunisten als Beamte verfügt nicht einmal die Sowjetregierung.

Was zu verdienen

Nicht weniger als 130 000 Ohrfeigen hat in den zwanzig Jahren seiner Zirkusfertigkeit der Clown Landauer erhalten, der sich jetzt in Buxtehude in den Ruhestand zurückzog. Für jede Ohrfeige erhielt er von der Direktion eine besondere Prämie, die sich jeweils nach der Stärke der Backpfeife richtete.

Wie wir hören, soll auf Grund dieser Nachricht Rem. Perts Oberbürgermeister, der Jude von Guardia, sofort eine feste Brücke für die Ohrfeige veranlagt haben, die er fürztlich von einem Arbeitsschöpfer erledigen möchte.

Beamtensport

Geht öffnet weit zum Sport die Tür
sich der Beamtenfests;
Stadtrat Behaghel sorgt dafür,
dass sie voll Schneid und Kraft.
Um die Beamten frisch und froh
zu halten, sei das Ziel:
'ne Stunde weniger im Büro!
In Sonn' und Lust beim Spiel!
Die Amüsbezeichnung fällt hier fort.
Kam'radshipsgeist erwacht!
Ja, durch Behaghel wird der Sport
behaghelich gemacht.

Der Geist von München siegt

Als Chamberlain und Halifax nach Rom fuhren, demonstrierten englische Arbeiterlose in London für Waffenlieferungen an Spanien. Sie erschienen mit einem schwatzigen Sarg am Bahnhof, um die Männer zu bestimmen.

Das konnte selbstverständlich nicht gelingen; Chamberlain hat schon einmal bewiesen, daß er ein Feind von Hitler ist.

Ausverkauf



„Den Stoff, Lleschen, haff' fest, das ist ja prima Qualität!“

Kameruner Bananen

Der deutsche Pflanzer mit Umsicht verführt,
und er verzeichnet nun
als Lohn für unermüdliches Tun
Aufschwung der Bananenkultur
in Kamerun.

Wer auf Bananen Appetit,
hau' sie in eurem Gelände,
aber das blüh'nde Mandanisgebiet
gebt wieder in deutsche Hände!
Deutscher Fleiß dies alles schuf!
Jenen, die Böses planen,
begegnen wir mit dem Abwehrtauß:
„Ausgerechnet Bananen!“

Opferwillig

Der Oberbürgermeister von Sosia
hat den weiblichen Angestellten das
Tragen leidener Unterwäsche verboten.

Eine belandete Widerstandskom-
mission wurde bereits eingesetzt. Zahl-
reiche Frauen stellten sich für diesen
Kauf freiwillig zur Verfügung.

Gahneneid

Die hochgewitschen russischen Macht-
haber erliehen eine Verordnung, nach
der der neue Fahneneid beim Heer und
der Flotte mit eigenhändiger Unter-
schrift bekräftigt werden muß.

Nach mir nicht schreiben kann, jetzt
einfach drei Kreuze dahinter.

Wahrheitsbeweis in USA.

Der Justizausschuss des amerikani-
schen Senats hat trotz mehrfacher Ein-
sprüche die von Roosevelt vorgenom-
mene Ernennung des Juden Frank-
furter zum Mitglied des Obersten Bun-
desgerichtes bestätigt, nachdem Frank-
furter persönlich vor dem Ausschuss er-
schienen war und die gegen ihn vorge-
brachten Beschuldigungen, Kommunist
zu sein, als unzutreffend erklärte.

Damit konnte sich der Justizausschuss
natürlich zustreiten geben, denn ein
Jude liegt nie, zumal dann nicht, wenn
er — wie Frankfurter — der Sohn
eines besonders salmodierfahrener
Rabbiners ist.

Zum 30. Januar

Wieder leuchtet der Fackeln Schein.
Wir ziehen unter der Quadriga ein
in Berlin, und die Herzen flingen.
Wie oft schon zogen wir so vorbei
vom Führer am Hause der Reichskanzlei,
ihm Huldigungen zu bringen.
Gebet und Schwur klangen auf aus den Reih'n:
„Das ganze Deutschland soll es sein!“

Und wenn wir heute vorüberziehn
in der neuerstehenden Hauptstadt Berlin,
muß höchstes Glück alle Herzen treiben:
Großdeutschland wird! — Und im Fackelschein
wollen wir so unsern Schwur erneu'n:
„Das ganze Deutschland soll es bleiben!“

Wurstdeoration

Die Stadt Portsmouth im Staat
Ohio war aus Anlaß des Jubiläums
der dortigen Wurstfabriken zwei Tage
lang mit langen Kränzen von Würsten
belegt.

Die Hunde brachen beim Anblick der
Deorationen in lautem Beifall aus.

Umgelehrt

In Sowjetrussland hat wieder ein
neuer Geheimsender seine Tätigkeit
aufgenommen.

Dafür sind die amtlichen Sender bald
Geheimsender, die Sowjetrussen wer-
den die nichtamtlichen Sender als
öffentliche Sender ansehen.

Flieger-Alarm in Brooklyn

Ein geheimnisvolles Geräusch bereitete den Bewohnern von Brooklyn, die sonst die einzigen Zerfallserscheinungen übermäßig erträgt führt, sicher einmal eine Sorge für Wahr.



Die Amerikaner haben mal wieder aus Mäden Gleisan' gemacht.



Müller: In de Neue Philharmonie hab ich mir de Marken-Ausstellung angeschaut.

Schulze: Ach nee? Wah da noch eine jewisse Eisdiele aus Pantom ausgestellt?

Müller: Wat hat denn eene Eisdiel aus Pantom in de Marken-Ausstellung untan Plastiken zu suchen?

Schulze: Na, Mensch, dann kenntie die nich! — Dat wah vielleicht ne Mark!

Müller: Also een Wütteracester von New York hat gesucht, dat die Männer mit eene Frau lieben würdien und intelligent seien als de anderen, und doh de Frauen bloß Männer mit eene Frau heiraten sollen.

Schulze: Na, dann haben wir heede de besten Chancen.

Müller: Ja, wenn wir bloß noch ledig wären!

Müller: In einer in Hull gehaltenen Rede erklärte Eden, dat die Arbeitslosigkeit in England und die unfruchtbare englische Außenpolitik in unmittelbarem Zusammenhang stehen und dat eens ohne der andere nich denkbar is.

Schulze: Dann betrachtet sich Eden also als den Vater der Arbeitslosigkeit in England?

Der siebzigjährige Alz vom Rhyn (Arthur Schreiber) nahm noch an einem Segelregatta teil

Wem Gott will rechte Gnade ermessen, war ihm das Mandeln nicht genug, den heißt er, o welch himmlisch' Reisen! dann war zu einem Segelregatta.

Das ist mal ein tödlich Gleiten, das jedes deutsche Herz bewegt, wenn durch die endlos Rauen Welten uns unsre Kraft von Dammern trägt.

Und wie der Schwalbe leicht Gefieder sie trug zur Ruhung, leichts hier fein: Ob ich zum Bier mich lasse nieder in München, ob in Trier zum Wein?

Nun lebt uns voll die Rechte Schenken, Der Erde Schwertkraft scheint besiegt, wenn sott und ohne viel Gedanken — ein Siebziger noch segelfähig!

Ernst v. Wildenbruch

(geboren am 3. Februar 1845)

Edlen Worts, edlen Siedlens Paarung!
Über dich hinaus dein Schaffen weist,
jedes Werk raut eine Offenbarung
deutschen Geistes, Kampf für deutschen Geist.
Mannhaft gabst du jeder Schicksalsfrage
Antwort, wie empöllert auch die Welt;
dieses Wort hat dumpje, schwarze Tage
mit Gewitterschlägen ausgeheult.
Zukunftsämpfer wußt' dein Wort zu werben,
und sie traten schon zum Sterne an;
gotbegnadet noch in deinem Sterben,
sei gesegnet, treuer deutscher Mann!

Das Blatt hat sich gewendet

"Daily Express" verfeindete glatt,
Deutschland mach' Frankreichs Presse saß
mit hoher Willensgabe,
worauf so manches Pariser Blatt
seine Haltung geändert habe.
Da ward den Parisen der Schwindel zu toll;
man lob sie gegen das hohen
und dreiste Lügen sich wirkungsvoll
und fräsig zur Wehr legen.
Schon hat manc französisches Blatt nicht faul
den Fälschern Antwort gesendet
und schlägt die einst Verwöhnten aufs Maul.
Das Blatt hat sich gewendet.

„39er Tarragoner“

„Nun kostet Sie“, wünschte Franco mir,
„und meinen „Tarragoner“ hier!
Ein Tröpfchen ill's von Feuer und Kraft,
es ist ein Tröpfchen, das Leben hauft;
drom merken Sie, wenn er so goldig rinnit
durch die Nelle, auf seine Wirkung gehäwind;
Ringsum wird es goldig und sonnig und hell,
das lebte Wölkchen verjagt er schnell.

Ein Tröpfchen ist's, das in sich frägt,
was uns das Herz auf's tiefste bewegt,
es gibt uns einen herrlichen Blick
höher Werke auf himmliges Glück!
Kunst Preis! Schau, wie es leuchtend spricht:
„Balb kön' ich Silvanus' Zuversicht!“
Kur von der Seine ertönte ein Blud;
„Er ist gar nicht mehr Blumig“. Das jagt genug.“

Chamberlains Schirm

die Fingreisen nach Berchtesgaden,
Godesberg und München in die Geschichte
der Staatsministerischen Attribute
eingegangenen Regierungskunst dem Museu
zu schenken! Die Bitte blieb
unverfüllt. Sein Schirm, so lautete die

Antwort, sei zu gewöhnlich und zu
abgetragen, als daß er eine historische
Reliquie sein könnte.

Das ist ja auch weiter kein Wunder,
wenn man bedenkt, wieviel Anwürfe
er abwehren mußte.

Heute ist heut!

Die Herr-Dichter Emigranten planen der Weltentzündung des „Festlichkeit von gestern auf morgen“, beten Empfangsfeier im Wiener Kaffeehaus und unangenehmer Gesellschaft.

Der Direktor der Weltausstellung, Magnus Hirschfeld: Kommen Sie rasch, meine werten Gäste, damit Sie sich von den eben gezeigten „wissenschaftlichen Errungenschaften“ erholen, die das dahurz bereichernde Deutschland vor gestern seinen Emigranten verdankt.

Ein Gast: Ja, gehen wir aus den Schredenslazaretten in ein Kaffeehaus! Es tut dringend not. Selbst abgestuifte Sexualpathologen eisbauen bei dem Gedanken, was das arme Deutschland hundert Jahre lang alles mit ertragen müssen.

Hirschfeld: Mir zeigen Ihnen jetzt nicht etwa des Deutschland von heute, dessen Leistungen uns so unangenehm in die Augen fallen, sondern ein Wiener Kaffeehaus, wie es sich unter Schuhdrückig entwidest hätte. Morgen!

Freier Gast: In einem grauenen Morgen, vor dem einem graut.

Dritter Gast: Man versprach uns Kaffee im Wiener Kaffee!

Hirschfeld: Die Bedienung trägt Kaffee und Paes. Das wäre im Deutschland, wie wir es aus erträumten, das Nationalkostüm geworden.

Kappelmeister: Sie hören jetzt Walzermelodien aus meiner neuen Emigrantenoperette.

Ein anderer: Sie hört da ganz geschoßen!

Wiederer: Was tanzen die Leute da?

Hirschfeld: Tanz auf den Balkonen! Wie es wäre, wenn wir weiter in Deutschland regiert hätten.

Fräulein: Wod warum ist nichts daraus geworden?

Ein andere: Weil hinter den Balkonen zum Tanz ausspielte!

Im Sowjetparadies



Unter dem Baum der Gedankenlos

Treibjagd auf Junggesellen



Hej! Hej!

Pfundstürung

Der Londoner Goldpreis steigt. Im Währungstreit droht John, die Goldreserven nicht zu schonen. Es stehen, wie er triumphierend schreit, runde vier Milliarden Reichsmark Kampfbereit (Dreihundertfünfzig runde Pfundmillionen). „Einsatz der Goldreserven wie noch nie!“

Englische Art! Sie zählt zu den bekannten Londoner Drohungen. Drum fürchtet sie nicht sehr der Kreis der Baisse-Spekulanten. Sie wissen, daß Johns Goldeinsatz gleich Null, und diese Hoffnung scheint nicht mal verwegen. Beim Einsetzen der Reserven wird sich Bull Reserve auferlegen.

Gärtner

Ein als evangelischer Pastor verkleideter Jude notiert in Prag gegen entsprechende Bezahlung für 1000 Kronen viele Tausen seiner Nachgenossen vor. Der Betrüger, dem nach der Aufdeckung seiner Tätigkeit nichts weiter geholfen, als daß er Prag verlassen mußte, ist ein früherer Weinhandler.

Darum verstand er sich auch so gut auf das Tausen!

Erbauliche Diebesbeute

In Portales im amerikanischen Staat New Mexico stahl ein Dieb aus einer Garage eine gefüllte Kleintasche. Als er diese zu Hause öffnete, fand er darin 800 gedruckte Predigten über das Thema: „Wie gewinne ich eine Seele für das Gute?“

Die Schriften waren also auf diese Weise an die richtige Adresse gerichtet.

Allgemeingut

Auf verschiedenen sowjetrussischen Bahnhöfen steht den Reisenden in den Wartesäulen nur ein einziger Löffel zur Verfügung.

Was ist nun besser: Diesen Löffel mit Heringstunfe dem Koffeeträger zum Umrühren zu leihen oder ihn erst nach allen Regeln der Kunst abzulecken und ihn dann dem andern zu überlassen?

Der letzte Aufzug des spanischen Dramas



Der Gnabenstoß

Stau und ränter

Der Stau des Volkskommunismus für die Maschinenindustrie, „Maschinenprojekte“, veröffentlichte eine Verordnung, nach der in der sowjetrussischen Maschinenindustrie die Lohnzulagen nicht um 25 % erhöht und die noch hohen festgesetzten Lohnabfälle der Arbeiter um 14 % herabgesetzt werden.

Die kommunistische Rechnung haben wir bedurft die Arbeiter wieder mit verbesserter; es ist weit mehr heraus als herabgesetzt werden.

Gute Aussichten

Der neu gewählte Gouverneur des Staates Kalifornien, Gilbert Olson, hat, nachdem sein Vorgänger sechs Tage lang mit Volksfesten und großen Banketts gefeiert worden war, bei seiner Amtseinsetzung wegen völliger Erschöpfung einen Nervenzusammenbruch erlitten.

Während seiner Amtstätigkeit wird er sich schon wieder erhöhen, dann ist die anstrengende Zeit ja für immer vorüber.

Borsig

Indem in der Volksschule von Jamaica im amerikanischen Staate Massachusetts so viele Mäuse gejagt sind, daß es nicht mehr auszuhalten war, und jetzt jeder Schüler, der zu Hause eine Käze hat, die mit zur Schule bringen muß, und die Käze dann da Mäuse fangen sollen, und durch nichts abgelenkt werden dürfen, sollte bei uns vorgezeigt werden und Käzen die Schultümme durchstechen, wobei aber niemand in den Räumen anwesend sein darf, damit die Käzen nicht abgelenkt werden und ich frage deshalb längere Zeiten, wofür die Schulbehörde dankbar sein wird

Heute Reichen Münzland,
Quarto, Coetus E.

Deswegen

Der Vorsitzende des Gottlosenverbandes, der Jude Karolowski, erklärte in Moskau, daß das Weihnachtsfest das Fest der Freunde des Proletariats sei und deswegen bekämpft werden müsse. Von wegen: Friede auf Erden.

Der Möjels Lösung

Märtita hat seitens neuer Tid: Der Nordpol rutscht zum Äquator hinunter, behaupten die Tageszeitungen. Man kann sich vorstellen, was für eine Handquelle diese Notrath für die Karikaturisten und Zeichner ist, die bereits den gesamten Schiffsoberdeck durchheben begegneten zeichnen.

Da braucht man sich nicht mehr zu wundern, wozu bei der allgemeinen Kälcherei den Amerikanern auch das Herz in die Hosen gerutscht ist.

Mißverständnis

„Sag' bloß mal, Mann — was ist denn in Dich gesunken? Gestern kamst Du schwer begeht nach Hause, und heut schon wieder?“

„Ach — hab — davon ist nur der — hab — Zahnschmerz schuld.“

„Naßnitt, der Zahnschmerz. Wie soll denn?“

„Er hat mir ge — gesagt, gegen Zahnschmerzen soll ich so — fleißig den Mund mit Alkohol spülen!“

Bitte beitreten — zum Antifeminismus!

Deutschland — Japan, damit hat's begonnen;
nicht lang hat Italien sich besonnen;
Ungarn ist der Vierte im Quartett — —
langsam wird's auf Erden wieder nett!

Über dabei soll es noch nicht bleiben;
gegen Judas Kommunistentreiben
muss die ganze Welt zusammenstehen — —
dann ist's erst auf Erden wieder schön!

Das ostpreußische Elternhaus — und Carl Maria von Weber

Swar Geld und Gut in Fülle nimmer;
öst schwant die Not zum Feuerst rein;
dem deutscher Waldemar Schimmer
verfällt's wie goldner Morgenchein;
und das war in der Abendstunden,
wenn unter Taten heimgefunden
vom Amt, griff er aus Herzengewalt
Hans zur Gitarre: prahlndierend,
und herlich die Altarde führend,
brachte ihres Sanges Zaubermarkt —
fort schwand vor ihm als Mühl' und Not und Qual:
„Die Sonn' erweicht, mit ihrer Pracht
erfüllt sie die Berge, das Tal!“
Und so beschloß nun jeden müden Abend
des Taters Stimme zum Gitarrensang;

und wie besiegt lauscht ich allemal,
von tiefer Weise stets erfüllt die Rindesbrust,
auf jener Höhe unbeschreiblich hohe Macht,
die mich seitdem von neuem Herz bejagt;
„Die Sonn' erweicht, mit ihrer Pracht
erfüllt sie die Berge, das Tal.“
Und der Erinnerung Schatz aus jener Abendstunde
verleiht mit Alten Blut im Wein und Rot,
mit diesen Tönen, die so wunderlich, im Bunde
troh ich dem Teufel, ja, dem grimmen Tod!
Denn fürmer Wollen sich zu finstter Nacht,
was ist's, mich führt nicht an des Lebens Qual:
zuließt im Herzen Wohl's mir sieg gewaltig;
„Die Sonn' erweicht, mit ihrer Pracht
erfüllt sie die Berge, das Tal.“ Max Brinkmann

Nicht tragisch nehmen!

Der Emigrant Leopold Schwarzschild lebt in seinem Blatte, treu befreitigen Erträgen des erßt kürzlich eingetreteten Redaktionsseltenen, den Sachkunden, daß die Erfindung und Verbreitung falscher Nachrichten nicht tragisch zu rechnen sei. Tragisch stützen sie Schwarzschild offenbar nur dann an, wenn sie ihrem Zweck verfehlten und die Wider nicht, dem Weltjudentum zu lieben, in blutige Kriege hineinziehen. Was tragisch ist also anzupreisen die Nachricht von der Landung deutscher Truppen in Monreale, der Entfernung des polnisch-ungarischen Staates ausstandes durch das italienische Eritrea, der Bedrohung ganz Amerikas durch ein Bündnis

autoritäter Staaten mit Marsbergern. Tragisch wäre dabei die nüchtern Vergewaltigung der Emigrantenzschmelz, während eine Villenmautricht, die zum Ziele, zur Entfernung eines Krieges und zum Siege der überstaatlichen Macht führt, wie Tapet nichts zu schaffen hat, bemüht im Schwarzschildischen Sinne nicht tragisch zu rechnen ist.

Ob die gewerbsmäßigen Verbreiter nichttragischer falscher Nachrichten mit dem Titel „Nachrichten“ auszuzeichnen oder ihrer Verantwortlichkeit und Gesetzlichkeit wegen gleich dem Nachrichten zu übergeben sind, bleibe der Entscheidung der Genfer Liga anhängiggestellt

Neuer Frauenberuf

Um beim augenblicklichen Mangel an Schiffsjungen abzuhelfen, hat das Wasserbauamt in Münster (Westfalen) angekündigt, daß auf besonderen Antrag hin bei Fahrzeugen von 15 bis 20 Tonnen Tragfähigkeit auch über 16 Jahre alte weibliche Familienangehörige des Schiffsführers an Stelle von Schiffsjungen zugelassen werden dürfen. Es wird also in Kürze auch weibliche Schiffsjungen geben.

Warum auch nicht? Frauen verstehen, günstigen Wind abzuwarten und auszunutzen, sicher durch manche Klippen auf das Ziel loszusteuern und ihr rechten Augenblick das Steuer fest in der Hand zu behalten.

Aus den Varietés

Die USA-Gouverneur in Santo Domingo, Stadt
zu sein, haben in Washington Klage gegen
Deutschland gestellt.



Die Musical-Gleiterin Bullitt und Kennedy (Reinhardts Comp.) in ihrem erschütternden Stilettotanz „Die deutsche Gefahr“



Der Tierkreis des Schlemmers

Die Skatkreise

In Skatspielerkreis hat die Eroeffte Ruhfahrt erzeugt, die von den bewulstten Skatflocken mit dem Rennquek des bewulstten Clubs in Gedankensprung als Spiel für das beste Skatpiel gefestigt worden ist.

Wer das höchste Spiel gewonnen
in dem ganzen langen Jahr,
kriegt bezahlt die schönste Reise —
also ausgemacht es war!
gleichzeitig wird drum Skat gebroschen
ohne Ruh und ohne Rast
immer rotzt ja dem die Reise,
het da immer nur „gepäst“.

Erfindung

Die „Prawda“ meinti, das sowjet-
russische Kribbelen, von dem die aus-
sündlichen Blätter hörteten, sei er-
funden.

Der Erfinder heißt Stalin.

Einmal war ich nah am Ziele,
spielte led ein „Null auvert“,
doch es war falsch ausgeteilt,
das verdorft mich dann nachher,
und als hoch ich wollte spielen
und mit Zahlen nicht gezeigt,
mußt' ich's doch verloren geben,
denn ich hab' mich „überreizt“.

Süßigkeit

Ein kosmetischer Salon in New York
empfiehlt den Damen Schönheitsbäder
aus flüssiger Schokolade.

Wenn die Männer dann noch nicht
anbeißen . . .

Endlich hab' ich's doch gewonnen,
einen „Grand mit Bieren“ gab,
und nun mach' ich die Reise,
die der Club bezahlt bat;
fragt ihr nach dem Ziel der Reise:
Alienburg im Sachsenland,
des ist allen Kartenspielern
längst als Heimat ist bekannt!

Gefängnis

In Amerika erwägt man, die Frei-
heitsstatue aus dem Hafen zu ent-
fernen.

Vielleicht soll sie in einer Synagoge
unterge stellt werden.

Das Wichtigere



Jeanne d'Arc: „Ist Frankreich in Gefahr?“

Blum: „Vielleicht, Barcelona! Deswegen möchten wir deine Hanwei etwas schonen!“

Einzelhalle

In Ostpreußen stellte sich ein Verurteilter nicht zum Strafauftakt und alle Nachforschungen blieben ohne Erfolg. Endlich stellte ein Polizeibeamter, der das Haus beschautete, fest, daß der Gefürchte jenseits Monate lang in einer Kiste auf dem Haushofen gelehnt hatte.

Der Mann hatte jedenfalls die Absicht, seine Strafe privat abzumachen.

Es tönt wie Grabgesang aus dem Empfänger mit einer Stimme, die in Hößen grüßt —
ist's Frauenum und oder ein härtiger Sänger,
der da — per Rundfunk — seine Schauder schmolzt:
„Ich möchte mich einmal im Leben verlieben...“
(Ich fürchte, es ist bei dem Wunsche gehstehen!)

Zu lese im Programm der Stimme Damen —
weiß Gott: das war ein Weiß, das so gegrollt!
Seit wann ist es der Weiß, der bei den Damen

Neuer Quell

Bei den Vorbereitungsarbeiten zur Volkszählung im Südsüdost haben die Behörden in der Gegend von Dresburg 47 Dörfer entdeckt haben, von deren Existenz sie bisher nichts wußten.

Das muß eine große Freude für Stalin gewesen sein. Weiß er doch nun, woher er neue Opfer für seinen Blutrausch nehmen kann!

Mode der tiefen Frauenstimme

der Liebeswerbung Stimme dunkel rollt?
Ich möchte mich nie im Leben verlieben —
in eine Maid mit so häßlichen Trieben...

Doch einmal höre ich dann — Wunder der Wunder! —
die eine Bästlin: — sie einzige allein —
Zarah Leander — darf ja tief herunter
und fragen: ob Liebe kann Sünde sein...“
Ihr glaube ich's wirklich, sie kann sich's erlauben,
im Weiß uns zu lassen. Das andern —
hängen zu hoch die Trauben...! C. H.

Dionysische Mahnung

Bei einem alten Freunde bei „Röderothaft“, dem Gemeindehaupt der Gablenzsch-Gemeinde und ehemaligen Vertreter Metzgern, Peter, Opernbaudirektor und Schauspieler in Berlin, bezog er zu seinem 70. Geburtstage am 21. Januar die folgende Dichtergabe aus: „Wissen Sie, der, der „Welt an die Freiheit jung“ blieb und nicht „Gute, ehrliche“ Lebensfreude und Freiheit C. H.

Geh aufs Haupt dir alle Kränze,
die das Leben für dich läßt,
reiche dich in alle Tänze,
füßt dein Sein wie ein Gedicht,
das Dionysos geschrieben
zwischen Trunkenheit und Lieben!
Willst du redjt die Stunde meistern,
mußt du dich mit leidem Schwung
sonnenüberglüht begeistern,
sei bis an die Freiheit jung!
Nicht den Tagen roter Rosen
blühett späte Herbstzeitlosen.

Wolfgang Borchert

Zu wenig bedacht

In Kalifornien hat ein Radfahrer sich einen Wochenend-Wagen gebaut, den er, trotz des Gewichtes von 100 Pfund, mit seinem Fahrrad und eigener Kraft vorwärts bewegt.

Und seine Frau? Soll die nebenher laufen? Oder nimmt er an jedem Wochenende Ferien von ihr?

Fließennadelsport

In der südfranzösischen Küstenstadt Ucclech ist ein mit Fließennadeln besetztes Skigelände mit 200 Meter Absehrt und 50 Meter Gefälle angelegt worden, das von einem eigenen Klub betreut wird.

Wer auf dieser Skibahn fällt, der fällt gleich im Fließennadelbad.

Immer höher

Drei Minuten nur war eine Frau in Chicago verheiratet, als sie sich wieder scheiden ließ. Ihre Mutter hatte ihr natürlich ausgerechnet an ihrem 19. Geburtstage 19 Schläge auf den Rücken verabreicht.

Die Mutter wußte wohl schon mit Schrecken an die Prügel zu gehen ihres 50. Geburtstags.

Maschinenschrift

Ein französischer Schriftsteller will auch aus der Maschinenschrift Chatschattenschrift herstellen.

„Königlein, Ihre Schrift zu deuten
ganz entschlich schwer mir fällt;
der Maschinenschriftcharakter
ist der dummste der Welt!

Ob Sie sparsam, ob Sie reizig,
die Maschine sagt es nicht,
und das ganze Schreiben zeigt
ein höchst nüchternes Gesicht.

Doch, je mehr ich dorin lese,
um so besser wird mir klar,
daß die Hand, die das geschrieben,
überlegt geführt war:
wer mit Schreibmaschine schreibt,
handelt immer klar und schlau —
aber ob ich glücklich würde
mit einer so klugen Frau?“



Briefkasten

Jagdzeit, erwünscht. Angeb. u. J. 9022 bef. d. G. Dtsch. Jagd. Neudamm.“
„Gute, brave „Deutsche Jagd“,
hier sind wir, tuen wir ehrlich, platt:
deut mit deinem Jagdherrn unterlich,
hört, irgend etwas stimmt da nicht:
Ob die Jagdgenossin darf oder schlafst ist,
ob sie vierzig, sollte ihm wurscht erscheinen,
menig nur eine schöne Schenken ist,
anß der sich Witwe und Frau vereinen;
und mornit hemerst et — ach, weink ic's
bloß müßt, —

doch er noch vertauscht müßt ist,
das hat doch hier einen Zweck bestimmt,
wenn et zwecks Jagd am Witwe turnt!
Das ist ja toller, behauert mit sickein,
als manch „Heiratsgechöft“ auf dem Käfer-
fürstenmarkt.

Heiratsamt. Dr. C.: Im „Saarberger Neuen Tagblatt“ vom 12. 1. 39. Mit. 29.
Lesen wir folgende Anfrage: „Wer kann

mir e. Rezept über Bier als Hausgetränk
gegen Begeißigung geben? Ang. u. L 272
aus Tagbl.“ Einjet Mitarbeiter Tier-
ärzter entworfene darauf:
Wohl, du sollst dir Bier bereiten,
schaff' ein großes Faß dir an,
das mußt du mit Fleisch verkleiden,
doch es zu nicht rästen kann,
Gieße Wohl, dann viele Stunden,
denn du Suppen beigelegt,
füll das Faß bis zu dem Spouten
mit dem Sud, der gäret jetzt.
Wohl kann scha der Sud ein trinken,
doch du eignes Bier im Faß —
willst du aber Bier zum Trinken,
kauß dir lieber eine Flasch!

Merseburg, G. P.: Auf einem uns ohne
nähere Angabe eingeschickten Wasserkocher
aus einer Berliner Zeitung (Heirats-
markt) beginnt ein Heiratsgechöft mit fol-
genden Wörtern: „Dekretum 29, 188,

25 000,- 100 000,- Lebensversicherung, heitester Dame, mitbietet und 100,- 100,- 500,- monatlich." Es verflucht, der Junge ist nicht übel, der älteste tollwütig im Kreise steigen, sobald er's zum Bettstuhl gebracht hat, — was wir doch nicht hoffen wollen: Viele, gütliche Menschen auf Erden, bilden Hoffnungen nicht Hoffnungen werden! Wenn, schaffe ihm Durchgang beim Gehen zur Freude der heiterschönsten Dame, die ihn zu einer möglichen Preise noch haben möglichen möglichenweise. Vor allem befehle den tollen Etappel, daß die Ehe doch kein Hochzeitskapel.

Gleiwitz. H. S.: Da der Nachzeitung ist „Deutsche Brauereizeitung“ vom 30. 12. 26 lesen wir: „Aber auch sonst war das Jahr 1928 ein Jahr gehebet Zeita. Der Bierjahresplan will seinen gewöhnlichen Aufgaben nahm das ganze deutsche Volk so in Anspruch, daß wir“ Klarz natürlich, verheirateter Einzelner, gibt neben dem „Bierjahresplan“ auch einen „Vierjahresplan“, dessen gründliche, ausgreifende und freudige Ausführung unter Mitarbeiter Biermördner ebenfalls mit freudlichen Augen verfolgt. — Was uns über nebenselbst noch interessiert, ist die Tatsache, daß im Verlag von Karrl & Herkl. München, ein deutscher „Bierkalender“ erschienen ist. Dies hat unseren Mitarbeiter Biermördner bestätig begegnet, daß er sich bereits an die Schaffung eines „Bier-Almanachens“ herangearbeitet hat, für den er schon die reizendsten Bierstein auswählte: 3. B. heißt's für den 11. März:

Das Bier ist gut;
ich kauf' mir keinen Hut;
ich leg' den alten aus
und kauf'!
und für den 1. Juni:
Als des Himmels häutige Riemwurz
gäben Götter uns den Bierdurch.

Wie für den 5. Oktober reiht uns Biermördner ein wenig zu führen:

In vino veritas!
Güldner Qualität ist das;
Hier gibt' uns siebzehn Herz,
blau lebt' nieß' Volligdör.

Neubrandenburg. C. K. D.: In der Silvesternummer der „Berliner Illustrirten Zeitung“ lesen wir auf Seite 2152: „Schritte führt sie zu dem Schreis, auf dem sie sich trotz ihrer Freiheit uppig niedergießt, indem sie herzschüttend schauderte.“

Man kann sich uppig — wohl mit fettem „Oho“ —

selbst wenn man jetzt jetzt ist, irgendwo auf dem Schlaßojo niedergelassen vermeint, doch schwieriger scheint uns das Gegenteil: daß eine mit einem Sigtteil, der stramm und fest, sich auf einen Schlaßojo niedergießt; das erscheint uns dadurch unmöglich gemacht,

da von der uppigkeit doch das Soga traut; sie kann sich nicht jetzt niedergelassen nennen sich.

der Gegenzug ist wirklich zu dämmlich; und wenn sie dazu noch erschütternd greift, die Sache noch viel vertäutet erscheint.

Brandenburg a. d. H. C. J.: In einer Berliner Zeitung vom 9. 1. 29 (Name nicht erkennbar) lesen wir: „45-Zentnerde, rießiger Schnapsverbrauch, Sparsamkeit 100,-, 500,- erforderlich. Rödel, Gschätztematler Würtelstrasse 15, aufdringlich.“ Dummehschlag, Welch verführter Klänge! Du hättest so mancher Zeitgenosse, der sich nach einem glatt laufenden Geschäft sehnt, verflucht „helle Ohren“ legen! Gi, zum Teufels, das wünschte sich mancher auch: So reiten im riesigen Schnapsverbrauch! Und ringsherrum wäre alles duhrt,

daß die Seine zum Himmel sich strecken, und es handelt und fühlt und langt

ohne Ruh'n aus allen Würfe und Ecken und du freust dich, ja wir man immer los ob der riesig bejungenen Städte; und du machst nicht weiter Steinjoh, deinf' dir bloß —

als Kasse, Kasse Kasse!

Und du kommst dir, Regt alles riesig im Schmer,

wie der „Sulton von Weißbretzen“ vor.

Leipzig. K. J.: In den „Leipziger Nachrichten“ vom 11. 12. 28 befindet sich die Fortsetzung des Romans „Der rechte Mann auf Bierkasten“; darin lesen wir zu unserer nicht geirrten Verwunderung: „Wie schön ist das Land. Wie die Helden rauden, wie ruhig steht die Bierde plattam. Bierg gehen. Es ist Klarissas Land, ihre Kinder, ihre Pferde und ihr Bierg sind es.“ Dan ist im ersten Augenblick von dem lieblichen Sitz der Dichterin, die uns doch augenscheinlich eine Weißbretzen als den „rechten Mann auf Bierkasten“ vorführen möchte, tief ergriffen; doch plötzlich rückt der Leier über die hohle Wahrungslosigkeit der gärtlichen Klarissa in landwirtschaftlichen Elementarbegiffen und zittert resigniert die Bierde: „Aber verehrte Dichterin, Welch Scher, uns bleibt vor Erklären die Piste weg, wir ziehen dreimal herum noch voll, denn es wäre, so sagst du, Klarissas Els, die Pferde als ihre auszuschänken, die so folgsam hinter dem Pferge gehn, als wären sie dämmlich, Schritt vor Schritt; gern machen sie jede Verkümmereit mit, wie sie noch kein Saret auf Erden fahrt. Drum nenn' die „Klarissa“ „Klarissina“. Doch die Bierde fragen, die sind nicht doof: „Was der — rechte Mann auf dem Bierkasten?“

Graue Haare

Bollnässen

zurzeit etwas wild
Familie Bollnässen
Kühnungsgraben, M. Weil
Würzner 12, Göttingen 47

Preis 100,- Zu kaufen
in all. Apotheken
zu 100,- Euro Rosen-
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Diskret

vergaßt ich 14 Jahre
höchst geliebt Kind
höchst liebster Kind
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Der Held



„So ist's richtig! Wir beide werden kämpfen wie ein Mann vor der Zivilisation! Du gibst das Blut und ich geb die Tinte, du machst die Schlachten und ich den Profit!“

Nr. 4 — 92. Jährg.
Berlin, 22. September 1939

Preis 57 Pf.

Staddeckerth



Roosevelts Friedenshabsucht

Lotterie-Reform

Da jede Macht ihre Flotte
käfft im Mittelmeer,
sorgt auch die neue Reichs-Lotterie
für Mittel mehr.

Die Bekämpfung des Falles
hat plötzlich darin Siegt,
dass der eine nicht alles,
möglichst jeder was kriegt.



Es werden in diesem Sinne
Schußscheiße viel geheilt,
wenn man die größten Gewinne
möglichst in mittlere teilt.

Gewinne halbieren und dritteln!
Mittelgewinne herant!
Auf den Gewinn von Mitteln
kommt's ja den Spielern grad' an.

* * *

Der Weltgendarm

Ein Zauberspruch stand aufgereckt
in Onkel Sams vier Pfählen:
„We tax, we spend and we elect“.
„Wir steuern, zahlen, wählen.“
So trug er Steuern ohne Zahl,
die Gelder flossen allzumal
davon durch abseit'gen Kanal —
„Freiheit“ naunt' er's emphatisch
und stimmte dann am Tag der Wahl
genau so, wie's der Boss befahl.
Das galt als „demokratisch“.

Es ging, bis Sam mit eig'ner Hand
die Absperrung zertrümmert
und bis er sich um fremdes Land,
um fremdes Volk gekümmert.
„Sie zahlen Steuern nicht wie ich,
vergeuden's nicht so herrschaftlich
und wählen schlecht're Christen.
Aus diesem Grund erneuñe ich
zum Master der Nationen mich,
zum Weltall-Gouvernanteich
und Weltallpolizisten.“

Zumal autoritärem Staat
wollt' er den Weg verwehren
und sucht' als Herrgottsdemokrat
auch Deutschland zu belehren.
Hierbei gewann er freilich nichts,
sein Prager Feuerwerk verzicht',
der Fall, drum er sich eingemischt,
steht nicht mehr zur Debatte;
ward doch vom Führer unverweilt
ihm eine Antwort zuerteilt,
die sich gewaschen hatte.

Und will mit Reden Tag für Tag
Sam fürder uns begaben —
bei dieser einen Antwort mag
es sein Bewenden haben.
Ist kein Gendarm, der uns erschreckt!
Wir reden nicht viel, aber's fleckt.
„We tax, we spend and we elect“,
jedoch nach eig'ner Siegel.
Und schlät uns wer, von Grün entfacht,
so laßt ihn schelten! Deutschland lacht
der Ikes-Gleichheits Regel.

Richard Rorbasen

Denkmalsbesichtigung in Rom



„Ahse Rom-Berlin, Signore Chamberlain!“

Stimmen über den Kanal

Erzbischof von York: Gentlemen — sind wir nicht selber schuld an dem, was jetzt in Deutschland vorgeht? — Haben wir nicht damals, als wir durch unsere Blockade das nachhaltige deutsche Volk aushungern wollten und Tausende von Wirtschaft, Frauen und Kindern tödlich — noch nach dem Waffenstillstand — verhungern lassen, die Ursachen für den Aufstand der Deutschen geschaffen?

Mr. Douglas Reed (britischer Korrespondent in Prag): Der Herr Erzbischof meint, wir seien selber schuld daran, daß der Nationalsozialismus in Deutschland statt wurde — eben durch unsere Blockadenmethode... Nun gut: — will man jetzt etwa dem General Franco die Seetriegerechte zugeschenken, damit der die Barcelonaleute durch Blockade zwingt, klein beizugeben? Wie? — Sind die Barcelonaleute denn weniger wert als die Deutschen?

(gerades Gelächter rieselte)

Mr. Vernon Hartlett (Member of Parliament): Es mag ja sein, daß unsere demokratischen Formen der Regierung und andere Ideen vor persönlicher Freiheit dem Untergang geweiht sind... Aber es gibt unter uns noch einige, die „das schlimmste der Übel“, nämlich den Krieg, verziehen, wenn es um Sein oder Nicht-

sein der Demokratie und ihrer Ideale geht...

Mr. Churchill: Ich halte mich zurück — jawohl, ich halte mich zurück in einer Entscheidung zugunsten einer der tödfeindlichen Parteien in Spanien... Ich bedaure beide. Ich finde nur, daß, wenn Franco, Gott behüte, gegen sollte, unsere spanischen Freunde und damit wir die schlimmsten Kusshäfen haben werden! Aber warum sollten die Ideale der Religion und der Monarchie, die in England so gut miteinander ausformen, nicht in Spanien ebenso harmonisch mit denen der Freiheit und der Demokratie vereinbar sein?

Ein unbotmäßiger Zuhörer: Nachtmahl, ich hört dir tremperl...

Ein stiller Zuhörer: Ruhe, bitte! Respektieren Sie die freie Meinung! Diese Herren haben das alles wirklich gesagt! Das ist kein Scherz...

Der unbotmäßige Zuhörer: Deum eben!

Ein Buchkritiker in England (Mr. L. Outhwaite): Bei der Betrachtung der marxistischen Stimmen über das nationalsozialistische Deutschland wird man immer wieder an das bekannte Wort Hegels erin-

nen: „Wenn die Tatsachen nicht mit meiner Theorie übereinstimmen, so ist das um so schlimmer für die Tatsachen!“ Denen diese schreibenden Nachsten und Emigranten lassen die Leute jetzt sagen immer „dranzen“... So wird z. B. immer vergessen, daß die Kläger in Deutschland durchaus bewußt zu Hitler übergingen, als er nämlich Arbeit versprach und willkür Arbeit schaffte...

Ein anderer Buchkritiker (H. L. St. G. Saunders): Capitán Rogers fordert in seinem Buche „Propaganda im nächsten Kriege“ vor allem ein konkretes Ziel, ein konkretes Ideal. Wahrschauig: ist es nicht bei uns ebenso notwendig wie in Deutschland, dem Volke eine strenge Lehre, eine Doctrin anzupreisen? — Was notwendig erscheint, ist nicht, auf die Stunde der Gefahr zu warten und zu hoffen, daß dann der gute alte englische Geist beschworen werden möge... Der Geist Englands muß jetzt schon wechselt gemacht werden...

Der unbotmäßige Zuhörer: Habe ich nicht gesagt: Nachtmahl...

Der stille Zuhörer: Ja, ja, aber finden Sie nicht auch, daß man sich da drüber nicht so ganz klar ist, wie die Dinge stehen? — C. E.

Der neue Hut



„Merkwürdig, lauter Davidstern!“

Tempora mutantur

Wenn früher die Kammer zu tagen begann,
hielt ganz Frankreich den Atem an,
lanschte, was die Uhr geichlaget.
Diesmal kommt' nur mit Mühe und Beschwerden
der Staatshaushalt verabschiedet werden.
Bezög'nung der Fertigstellung zwang
die Tat die Parlamentsgewässen,
fünfundzwanzig Stunden lang
wurden die Uhren angehalten.
Mit einer nahezu grenzenlosen

Gleichgültigkeit sag'n's die Franzosen;
keinen Haarmerle die Tat
von Kammer und Senat,
den ehemal' Utmücht'gen im Staat.
Ob Kammer sich und Senat erbosen —
wenn schon sag'n die Franzosen
und lassen sie schalten.
Ob fünfundzwanzig Stunden lang
sie angehalten den Uhrentag,
den Atem hat niemand angehalten.

Ganz ausgedehnt

Mehrere Angestellte des Moskauer Aero-Clubs wurden von der GPU verhaftet, weil sie Lindbergh angeblich als zu freimüdig Einblick in die inneren Geschäftshandlungen des sowjetrussischen Flugzeugbauens gegeben haben.

Das ist die beste Bestätigung für Lindberghs Angaben.

kleiner Unterschied

Eine amerikanische Gewerkschaftszeitung schreibt: „Die Gewerkschaftsarbeiter haben am 29. und 30. Oktober 1933 eine große Konferenz abgehalten. Es wurde auch ein großes Banquet veranstaltet, das um 6.30 im Kreuznauer-Tempel stattfand. Hier war eine Anzahl führender Arbeiter versammelt, unter denen wirklich ein brüderlicher Geist herrschte.“

Abzweigende Arbeiter und verzögerte Arbeiter ist ein kleiner Unterschied.

Erster Parteitag der NSDAP in München

(28. Januar 1923)

Rings zogen die Getreuen herbei,
als Hitler den Vorwurf verhündet
der von ihm gegründeten Partei.
Sie war auf ihn gegründet.
So form' ihr wie der Begeisterung Glut,
der Glaube nie abherden,
versekte der Glaube Verge von Mut,
die dem Kretter entgegen standen;
so zühte die füne Grobeterschaft
nöher und näher den Stufen
der Macht. Zehn Jahre später wath
der Berufene ins Amt berufen.

Sofia

In Sofia kommen auf 31 233 lebige Männer nur 19 048 heiratsfähige Frauen.

Auskunft über Schließungsverbindungen mit Sofia erteilt Interessentinnen jedes Reisebüro.

Gefährliches Unterfangen

In der Affäre Muñoz will der Stellvertretende Generalstaatsanwalt McMahon neue Spuren entdeckt haben, die einfach phantastisch wären. Diese Spuren, sagte er, würden bis zum Ende verfolgt werden.

Hoffentlich nicht bis zu seinem eigenen Ende.

Entgegenkommen

Während der letzten großen Kälteperiode stellten die französischen Beihäuser die bei ihnen Lagernden Wintermäntel für die Dauer der Kälte unentgeltlich zur Verfügung, um die Leute nicht dem Frost schullos zu überantworten.

Die Pariser Beihäuser dürfen im nächsten Winter mit einem unerreichbaren Record an verhegten Wintermänteln als Park für den „Dienst am Kunden“ rechnen.

„Die gottesfürchtigen Demokraten“



Senator Pittman: „Wogu einen Menschen erschießen, wenn man ihn zu Tode hungern kann?“

Erzbischof Lincoln preist sich an

Der letzte Amerikaner, Erzbischof Lincoln, der in den letzten Jahren in Amerika lebte, war, obwohl er kein Erfolg gezeigt.

Kreuzen Sie nicht einen Juden, der zuletzt Chinesen war, verkehrt aber Fotokunden-, Hochzeitsfeierten-Missionar, Fotobrillant und Erzbetrüger, Fotoverkäufer und Spion, Weltkriegshinterstreppe-Krieger, ständige „Kerzen“-Person? — Kurze Zeit auch Liberaler in Britanniens Untergang? — Fragen Sie die Steuerzahler: ich habe jeden Bogen raus! — Also welchen „Zweiten“ ich mich weiß'n soll, ist mir schon Schreien Sie, wieviel Sie zahlen. Lang die Zahl'r, die Werte kitz!

Heuchler

Während die politischen Seiten der amerikanischen Zeitungen mit wütenden Angriffen gegen die angeblichen Progrössen in Deutschland gefüllt sind, machen die Hotels auf den Untergangsstreichen darauf aufmerksam, daß Juden nicht erwünscht seien.

Man kann das eine tun und braucht das andere nicht zu lassen.



Müller: In Brasil ist ein Mann wegen Bigamie verhaftet worden; er hat es fertig gebracht, zwei Jahr lang mit beiden Frauen im Leidien hausen einträchtig zusammenzuleben.

Schulze: Vor dem Mann wundert mir das nicht, aber das mit die beiden Frauen ist mir zu schleierhaft.

Müller: Auf dem Wahrsagerkongreß in Paris sonderten sich die Prophetinnen und Propheten über ihre Aussagen für 1939 nicht einigen, besonders darüber nach, ob in diesem Jahre ein Krieg ausbrechen wird; schließlich endete der Kongreß mit einer Reise, und die Polizei mußte den Saal räumen.

Schulze: Zum ersten reine Lösung; man hat sich darüber geeinigt, daß am besten der Krieg gleich im Saale stattfindet.

Seine Proklamation

„Mein ist der Nathan-King, verstecken Sie, der edle King! Ich pred'ge allen Vanden die göttliche Demokratie.“
(Wie Wilson anno 19 sie verstanden.)
„Washington führt die Politik der Welt, führt sie, aufs es denn sein, bis in den Nachen des Krieges!“ (Und zum billigen Entgelt wird dann New York die Weltgeschäfte machen.)
„Diese Aufgabe erfüllt und seitlich, soll als König ob allen Völkern thronen!“ (Und wer sie anders angreift als wie ich, den schlägt ich zu den Angreifern.)

Der Gesangene des Kremls

Der Kreml soll nach dem Muster amerikanischer Gefängnisse mit einer Strafzelleinrichtung versehen werden, die automatisch Karam schlägt, wenn ein Besucher, der verbrecherische Waffen bei sich trägt, das Innere des Palastes betritt.

Die Nachahmung hat seine Berechtigung, denn der Kreml ist ja auch nur ein Gefängnis für Stalin.

„So wird es gehen!“ sagte die tote Herzogin zu Duncan Sandys, dem Schwiegersohn des Chamberlain hassenen Cardiffs. „Wir müssen vom Wege der Lernen. Hitler singt mit jedes Geduldungsgenossen an und hat es auf achtzig Millionen gebracht; schmen wir bei unserm Verein zur Verteidigung der europäischen Staaten kein Beispiel nach!“

Der ersten Verkündung des neuen Vereins wohnten dreihundert Gäste bei. „Welch ein Erfolg!“ rief die rote

Der Ausporn

Außerdem in Brownsville in den Vereinigten Staaten eine Lehrerin, die wegen Verherrlichung entlassen werden sollte, nach viermonatigem Sitzen im Klosettzimmer durchgebricht hat, daß sie auch als verheiratete Frau weiter unterrichten darf, ist das für mich ein Ausporn, auch weiterhin eifrig die Quaria zu besuchen, weil durch diesen Fall bewiesen ist, daß man auch durch Sichenzbleiben im Leben Erfolg haben kann, womit ich verbleibe Ihr Karlchen Wiesnid, Quaria, Coetus IVb.

Das Kinderdorf

Das Eifeldörchen Freisheim bei Akenach hat bei 250 Einwohnern 156 Kinder und Jugendliche unter 20 Jahren.

Dabei ist die Eifel bekanntlich wohl mit landschaftlicher Schönheit, nicht aber mit anderenirdischen Glücksfällen gesegnet.

Drum schreiben wir den braven Eifelern ins Stammbuch:

„König war den Lebensmut —
du trägst den Preis heim,
meiste Volkes höchstes Gut.
Drum Heil dir, Freisheim!“

Mehrgeburten durch Briefmarken

Der Postminister will mit einem Schlag Frankreichs Geburtenrückgang ruhmvoll enden, will zweier neuer Briefmarken Entwurf zur Erhöhung der Geburtenzahl verwenden. Wird Frankreich, das vom Stach davonjulansen pflegt, wenigstens die neuen Marken kaufen, wird's hier die Hand den Kinderzettelchen reichen? Das Postwertzeichen dient als Schätzjahrzeichen. „Wenn ich“, so seufzt Marianne grünbesetzt, „nich diesen Postwertzeichen auch versage, wenn hier der opferfreudige Käuerj schlägt, dann steh' ich vor den Marken meiner Tage.“

Das langhaarige „Wunder“

Eine jetzt hundertjährige Frau in dem walisischen Städtchen Trebantog, die ihren 100. Geburtstag feiern konnte, raucht auf örtliches Kuraten seit ihrem 60. Lebensjahr täglich eine Packe Tabak. Außerdem trinkt sie jeden Tag einen halben Liter Bier.

Zit es da ein Wunder, wenn sie so lange lebt? Göt so etwas hat der Teufel selbst Angst!

Hitler überholst

Herzogin: „Hitler ist nun übertrumpft.“

„Es gibt eben noch Männer in England!“ stellte Duncan Sandys stolz fest.

„Woßt ich ein lebendiger Beweis bin!“ erwiderte die Herzogin. Sie zuckte nicht zusammen, als von den dreihundert Gästen die Hälfte den Saal verließ. „Hitler hatte nur ersten Abend nur sechs Anhänger!“

Aber selbst von diesen hundertfünfzig Landen fuhr zur zweiten Versammlung nur fünfzig zur dritten

Automatenstrümpfe

Zu Wien und andern Städten der Österreit sollen jetzt neue Arten von Automaten aufgestellt werden, bei denen man Damestrümpfe in verschiedenen Farben erhalten kann.

Man hofft auf eine gewaltige Steigerung des Fremdenverkehrs, wenn es vollends gelingt, die Damen zu einem Anziehen der Strümpfe vor den Automaten zu gewinnen.

eben noch zwanzig ein, und auch diese schrämpften im Laufe der Verhandlung auf jedes ein. Die Herzogin strahlte. „Heut ist Hitler erreicht.“

Der Schwiegersohn Churchills redete sich auf. „Warten Sie bis morgen! Dann hab' ich ihr überholst.“

Am nächsten Tag stand folgende kleine Anzeige in der „Times“: „Vorhandenes dreißigiges Präsidium ruft auf diesem Wege eine Massenbewegung zur schnellen Vernichtung der autoritären Staaten.“

Eden zurück aus USA.



„War es nicht etwas unvorsichtig, sich politisch so zu exponieren?“
„Vielleicht, aber wie Sie sehen, habe ich immer den Ehrein gewahrt!“

Verbrecher-Glück in USA.

„Die Zeitungspolitik der Staatsminister ist es, Kapital auf Arbeit zu setzen, gemeinsam mit dem. Die Differenzen tun dies zu Sieg, und eigentlich haben sie kaum für den Augenblick Zeit.“



„Der Roosevelt ist unser Mann, da brauchen wir keine Angst zu haben, daß wir mit Gewalt an die Arbeit gebracht werden!“

Friedrich der Große

(geboren: 24. Januar 1712)

„Der nimmt die Macht und braucht sie, wenn ich sterbe“, spricht Friedrich Wilhelm. „Treu dich, mein Gemüth! Dies Menschenblümlein ist der Königserbe, für den ich mich mein Leben lang gemüht. Noch warten zwur die preußischen Standarten, von grauen Nebelschwaden nicht umhüllt,

Sie müssen hier auf meinen Jungen warten, denn heute ist die Zeit noch nicht erfüllt. Frisch werde, wenn Gott will, ein prompter Zahler, der alle Rechnungen begleicht, wie hortet! Der Zugriff liegt bei ihm. Für harte Taten und für Soldaten wird von mir gesorgt.“

Moderne Viehzählung

In Amerika werden jetzt die Viehzüchter vom Flugzeug aus photographiert, damit man die einzelnen Tiere nachher auf den Bildern zählen kann.

Wo deswegen die sonst unverständliche Bezeichnung der Flugzeuge?!

Die Feuerläufer

In diesem Jahr sollen nach Indien eilende Kommissionen Forschungen auf dem Gebiet des „Feuerlaufens“ vornehmen. Es gehört zu den großen Geheimnissen dieses Landes, wie es möglich ist, daß die Wilder und Vetter ohne Verzerrungen auf gähnenden Stichen peilen können u. a. m.

Die Forschungen sind interessant und wichtig. Aber die Inden lassen sich leicht in ihre Geheimnisse hineinziehen. Der Europäer kann sich dort bei Gelegenheiten, wo die Leute es noch nicht einmal an den Huzschnellen tun, leicht die Finger leicht verbrennen.

Heiligkeit am falschen Platz

In Indien lebt, wie man gezählt, ein Drittel Hindus dieser Welt, und — für sie es verwertet werden, wäre dort das reichste Land der Erden. Doch arm ist Indien, dem das Kind wie seine Eltern heilig sind: man darf das Kindreich da nicht essen, nur selber will es tatsächlich freissen! So süßert man unruhige Kreiser und daß sie heilig, macht's nicht besser! Das ist, wenn's noch so unheilig sei, schließlich doch 'ne ... Kindermutter!

Blinder Marm

Vor dem Richter in München stand ein Marm, der im Rauch gleich drei Feuerwehrer gezogen hatte. Der Mann entschuldigte sich mit seinem alkoholisierten Zustand.

Bei diesem Mann handelt es sich um eine Begriffsverwirrung, er wird geglaubt haben, seinen Riesenschrank könne niemand anders als die Feuerwehr lösen.

Bumerang

In Amerika wählt der Antisemitismus.

Dafür sorgen schon die Juden.

Von Handel und Handeln

Ein Möbelagent in Brooklyn zeigte seine Ehefrau und deren Mutter wegen Bettunges an. Die verheiratete Schwiegermutter hatte dem Mann ihre Tochter gegen Zahlung von 2500 Dollar als Ehefrau angeboten und sie 1000 Dollar vor Abschluß geben lassen. Als der junge Ehemann nach der Hochzeit den Rest gezahlt hatte, zwangen ihn die beiden Frauen, auf dem Sofa im Nebenzimmer zu schlafen. Der Vorgang soll als Verstoß gegen Frau und Kinder im Geschäftsbetriebe vor das Handelsgericht kommen.

Das ist die rechte Stelle. Wenn der Mann gleich gehandelt und die Schwiegermutter hinausgeworfen hätte, wäre der Verstoß wesentlich erleichtert gewesen.

Wilson redivivus



Im Weißen Haus spukt es mal wieder. Schaurig flingt es in die Nacht:
„Ich will mir nochmal die Finger in Europa verbrennen!“

Schallplatten-Schlemmer

Eine französische Schallplattenfabrik berichtet, daß ihre Schallplatten mit Kochrezepten reichenden Absatz besonders unter der Männerwelt gefunden hätten.

Diese Schlemmer! Sie essen Schwarzbrot mit Käse und hören dazu, wie man Gansbraten mit verschiedenen Salaten und Kompost zubereitet!

Portoermäßigung

Die Postverwaltung von Venezuela hat einen neuen Tarif für Liebesbriefe geschaffen. Briefe mit rosa Umschlägen werden zu halben Preisen befördert. Enthalten die rosa Umschläge keinen Liebesbrief, ist hohes Strafporto zu entrichten.

Mahnungen an jämmerliche Zahler werden dort nur noch in solchen Umschlägen zur Post gegeben werden. Da finden sie Beachtung.

Vorteil der neuen Sprache

Norwegens Männer stehen fröhgesinnt ob dem Ereignis, dem siezen:
Die beiden norwegischen Sprachen sind —
Nitsmaal und Landsmaal — verschwunden.
Nun können sich fröhlich ins Bierlokal
die Chemänner entzieren.
Die Frauen müssen ja erst einmal
die neue Sprache erlernen.
Und bis sie parolinenpredigtbereit
in ihr, bis dahin wählt's fraglos
noch eine ganz gehörige Zeit.
Einstweilen sind sie sprachlos.

Wurstimport und Export, Roosevelt & Co.

Veranlaßt durch den Weltkrieg unserer finanzierten wahren Wirtschaften, die jetzt nicht mehr von hinten herum an den Staun gebracht zu werden brauchen, sondern den amerikanischen Platz befreien, insoweit dieser großen Nachfrage bietet wir an:

Erlaubnoblätter, amerikanische Vater der für den Fall, daß Belohnung den Emigranten verloren geht,

freie Pressezeit, echtes Weißrindfleisch, unter Aufsicht des Weltjudentums hergestellt,

frische Blut-Wurst, mit Kriegsprozessen,

Schwarzen-Magen, Harvard Columbia-Literatur gegen die autoritären Staaten,

Wurst wider Wurst, deutsliche Untowt auf Bekleidungen aus Wild-West.

Fürsorge

Der amerikanische Abgeordnete Dies erklärte, daß es in Mexiko, und zwar allein in den Vereinigten Staaten, nicht weniger als 100 kommunistische Zeitungen und Zeitschriften gäbe.

Stalin gibt für diese geistige Nährung des Amerikaners gern noch mehr aus.

Er weiß Bescheid

Seiner Begeisterung für Roosevelts Jahrtausend gab der bekannte Senator Pittman mit den Worten Ausdruck, daß durchaus nicht unbedingt ein Krieg kommen müsse. „Warum“, so fügte er hinzu, „einen Mann erschießen, wenn man ihn zu Tode hängen kann?“

Sehr richtig! Herr Pittman zeigt uns ja auch gleich, daß es tatsächlich keine gibt, die überhaupt keinen Schuß Pulver wert sind!

Der Sarg in der Downing Street

Die Arbeitslosen als Parzen
im Regierungsgebiet!
Sie trugen einen schwarzen
Sarg nach der Downing Street,
Draus klang es ernst bestehend:
„Beleidigt,burg und gut,
das Arbeitslosenland!“
(So wie es Deutschland tut.)
Beim Anblick des Sargs sträubt' sich allen
Regierungsvertretern der Schopf.
Sechs Bretter sah ich fallen,
höflichlich Bretter vom Kopf.

Betriebsrevision in Moskau

Wolfgang Schröder: die Widerstand gegen Stalinsche Zwangsarbeiter und Zwangsarbeit

Wie, du kennst selbst den Revisor
und willst mit ihm zechen gut,
weil er beim Granatendrehen
erstmalis dein Kollege war?
Dort habe ich durch lange Wochen
nur getanzt und geschwängt,
bis auch von dem vielen Boden
purpurrot die Nase glänzt!

Hat er Schmollis dir geboten
und hält heut' noch daran fest,
nun, dann feiert mein wegen
heut' ein Wiedersehensfest!
Sag' ihm aber dann auch bitte,
daß ich jet dein bester Freund —
fumm, ich trink aus deiner Flasche;
So mer's schließlich ja gemeint."

Der Kellergeist

In Friedrichshafen ist eine Frau zu Tod erschrocken, als sie in ihrem Keller einen Alten entdeckte.

Sie wußte offenbar nicht, daß die Heimat der meisten Alten dortzulande der Keller ist.

Einkochen

Die Präsentierung in Chicago hat bechlossen, zum Kässieren mehr weibliche Hüftsträuse als bisher heranzuziehen.

Weil sich die Frauen besser auf das Einkochen verstehen.

Korpsführer: Ich brauche
deine Unterchrift.

Kaczmarek: Du weißt, ich gebe
nichts Schriftliches von mir.

Woroschilow (zum Korpsführer): Und das ist Ihr Gebürtiger?

Stalin: Ich bin entzückt. Höher
geht's nicht. Ein solcher Notarist,
der schlägt bei Schmids Wadenleim
zittert! Ich erlege dir den Hahnenei,
mein Sohn, und erlende dich in die
Hauptchristleistung der „Verlada“.

Kaczmarek: Da passe ich hin;
die können auch nicht schreiben.

Scripto manent

werden wir finden (Stalin erscheint).

Korpsführer (zu Woroschilow):
Ich rufe meinen gebildeten Mann
auf (laut): Getreiter Kaczmarek!

Kaczmarek: Hier!

Korpsführer: Du wirst auf
Väterchen Stalin einzeln vereidigt
werden und den Eid mit eigenhändiger
Unterschrift bestätigen. Du wirst
dich dabei zu beschreiben müssen, denn
du hast in der Schule des Lebens viel
gelernt.

Kaczmarek: Sehr viel, aber
nicht schreiben!

Der „Klingel“-Fahrer

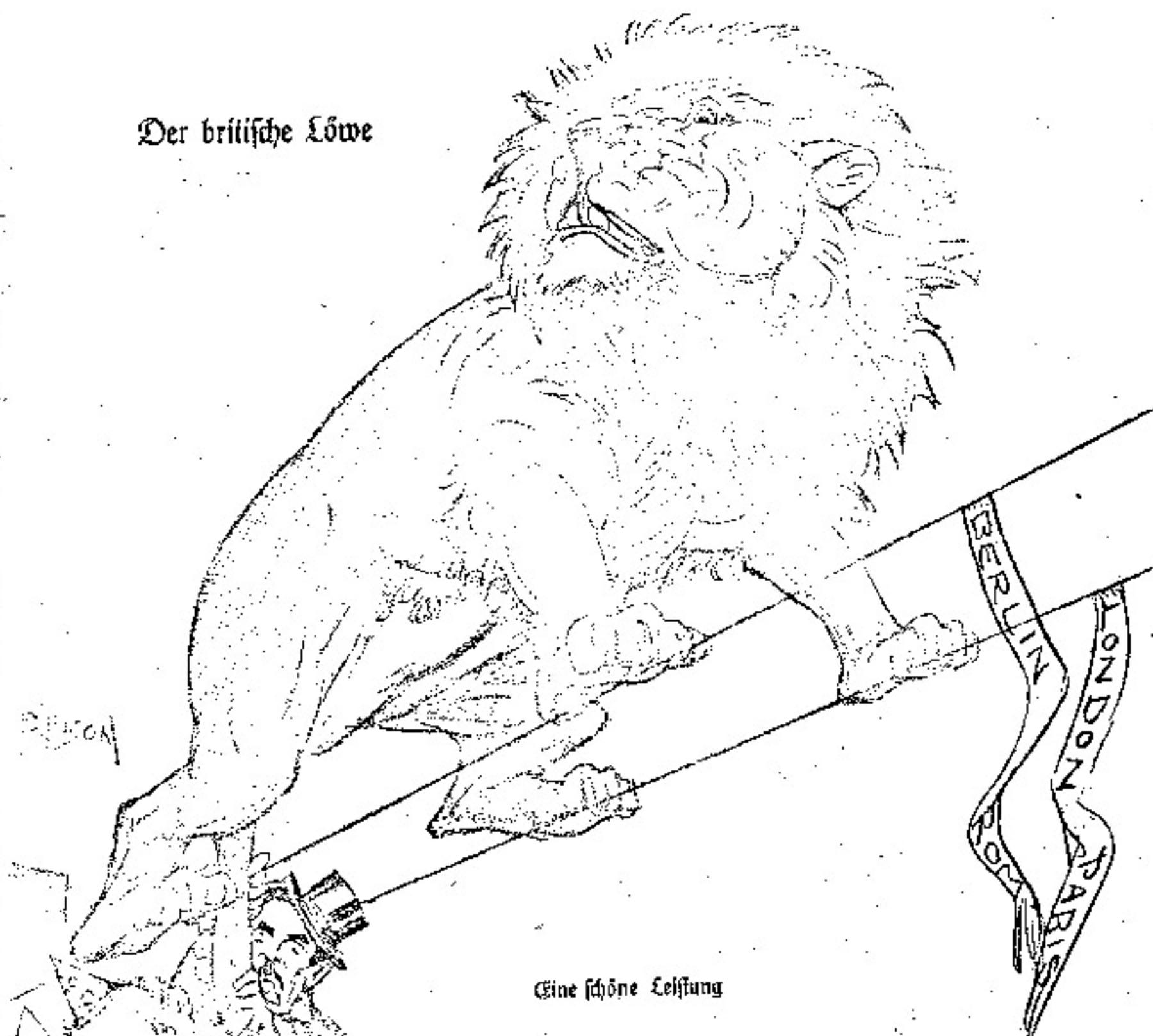
Jet steht in de Zeitung mir,
für zum und jut — ich lese!
Was vereint zieht sich mir der Sina,
ist sow' was an de Seele;
der Berliner Schusterjunge,
lese ich ergrieffen,
wäre schwach auf seine Buhpe,
hätte ausgespielt,
Neue Zeit und Schachbrett,
und was er sonst noch gibt
jemach, man fascht, er wäre' nich mehr,
hätte ausgespielt!
Grad' wie Götterlicher Name,
het bewährte Dr' jah,
besser Wiße jeder kannte,
im Berlin dor' dazumal.
Nee, der kenn' ich nich behreifen,
mehr' hemm' was jana vörz — —
plötzlich hör' ich etwas viseit,
da wie es nich hörjüber.
Det kam so: nach alter Weise
hump'le ich durch West-Berlin.
Autob., feierlich mit Kreise,
um was dicke Schuhe geh'n,
Was läuft hier heut' jerejelb,
ohne Lärm' und Staub,
keine Räubel, keine Fliejet,
alles geht hier kalt wie'n Wal.
Da plötzlich, wat trudelt da durch'n Dachde,
pfeifend aus volle Lungen,
wasch' Schiebel auf de Gaulstange euer? —
Een richtigia Schusterjunge! —
Er pfeift und tritt mit de Beene den Dach,
de Hände und' stolz in de Sache,
er jingt, als er merkt, det jana Unhöf' uns paddt;
er fühlt sich als jana frohe Wolche! —
Bejehrig durch det heile Auto-Berühl
pfeift er auf jedet Wabotz,
er pfeift und lächelt schmerhaft läbi,
als der Schuh' ihm während drobt.
Und, um den Quersch' au noch ausz'sha zu machen,
da habe doch der elende Schusterjunge! —
det Publikum ergsberum schümmt sich vor Lachen —
det Beon hoch — — und drückt auf de Klingel! —

Sei habe det alles mitangejehn,
und ich müsste ihn jut sein, dem Schuster.
Berlin, du laufst nich unterjed',
solange wir jowat noch haben!

Karl Gustav Grahe



Der britische Löwe



Perubalsam

Im tübelhaften Tönen schreit der „New-York-Times“-Vertreter White: „Perus Staatspräsident regiert in höchstem Maß unkritisiert, wirkt ohne Ahnung von Kultur mit Spionage und Zensur, entendet nur Podippe! schon zu Washingtons Delegation.“

Peru hat eben keine Spur von bürgerlicher Kultur. Wir bringen“, endet Whites Geschrei, „dem Land Peru Kultur noch hofft.“

Drauf antwortet Peru voll Ruh: „Was du nicht willst, das man dir tu, das füg' auch keinem andern zu.“

Telephon ins Jenseits

Das neue Telefonbuch von Göteborg verzögert Telephonanrufe von Personen, die schon seit vielen Jahren tot sind. Ruft man eine von ihnen an, so antwortet das Fröschelein vom Tod: „Der Aingerufene ist zur Zeit nicht zu Hause.“

Im Jenseits wird danach ein recht ausstreichendes Leben geführt.

Segenstrüter Alkohol

Zur Polizeigefangenzeit von Wellington in Neuseeland wurden zwei Männer mit einem Steinhagelrausch eingeliefert. Einigermaßen nüchtern geworden, erkannte sie sich als Brüder, die sich 25 Jahre lang nicht mehr gesehen hatten.

Ja, ja, der Alkohol hat halt doch auch seine guten Seiten.

Arme Thermis

Der alte Feig Geistiger lebte zum obersten USA-Müller ernannt.



Ziddisches Recht für Amerika

Links und rechts

Doktor Bryug Bryngelson von der Universität Minnesota hat als beste Heilmethode gegen Stottern entdeckt, hinsichtlich Wimpfen zu spielen.

Diese Erfindung ist nicht scherhaft geworden, nachdem man lange erwartet hat, daß gegen Stottern, die Worte auf Abzähnung gebraucht haben und dann nicht weiter, ein Rechtsanwalt hilft.

Heiligkeit

Der australische Journalist Clapton schreibt, Amerika habe von niemand einen politischen Angriff zu befürchten: er fragt, ob Roosevelt das Land in einen „heiligen Krieg“ führen wolle.

Der „heilige Krieg“ der USA ist wohl ein solcher, bei dem kein Gegner vorhanden ist?

Der Ziegel

Bei einer Feierlichkeit bei Regensburg trat förmlich ein Mann, der beim späten Nachtaufkommen bereits auf der Wurzelstiege die Zügel ausgezogen hatte, auf einen Ziegel.

Das Schlimmste für den Mann war, daß nun seine gute Absicht, die feure Hölle nicht zu stören, ins Wasser gefallen war.

Unbedingt!

In Grünstadt bei Neuburg wurde eine Erzählung abgehalten, zu welcher zahlreiche Freunde mitnahmen und bei der schließlich ein Fünftausender gejagt wurde.

Erstaunt ließ man, was in dem Blatte steht:

Zwölf Hölzer zogen zu 'ner Treibjagd aus,

Zehnmauer brachten sie des Abends spät.

Als Beute — eine Eichel mit nech Haus!

Das arme Tier! sagt jeder, der das sieht.

Genügend Zecht gab es aber kaum.

Wer sieht sich, wenn man unten hängt schwiegt,

auch ausgerechnet oben in 'nen Baum!

Die Narretei

Die Elsässer fallen ja bei der Elsässer Karnevalvereinigung „Der Möbelwagen“ zusammen, wie man einen Karneval aufzieht.

Die Straßburger feiern zum ersten Male das Fest der Narren im Steinmeier, im Saale. Sie feiern in Straßburg sich raus! bejubeln vor der Karnevalssitzung „Der Möbelwagen“.

Die Straßburger sind ja gewohnt, gerissen. Sie wollen zur Nachtwacht schon vorher wissen: Wie fährt ich der Prinz in der Republik, wie nach man Ehrenhüngern und wo die Majestäten?

Was fährt man spazieren an Bildern und Früchten? Und wieviel kostet der Kummel, wie viele Buben? Und womit erreicht man das Ziel am schnellsten, daß die Menschen nicht weinen, sagat die hellsten?

Wie macht man sie lärmlich und bringt sie zum Tollen, bis sie reden und tun, was sie gar nicht mal wollen? Da sprach „Der Möbelwagen“, der Karnevalszender: „Na, Kinder, ihr habt doch den Straßburger Sender!“ W.P.



Seit Dr. R.: „Der Goethe-Kritiker“ (Name und Datum nicht erkenntbar) befindet sich ein Witz über Entfernung von Betrechtern durch Blutspritzer; darin heißt es: „Der Gerichtsvollzieher weiß einwandfrei noch, ob es sich um Kleidchen oder Tuchblatt handelt. Dem Seien erscheint das im ersten Augenblick etwas unüblich, besonders dann, wenn die eingetretene Blutspritzer sehr klein und sehr verhältnismäßig ist.“ Dem Seien erschelat die Blutumzeichnung durch den Gerichtsvollzieher allerdings etwas uräugig, über der Goethe-Kritiker muß ja scherzen, daß gerichtsgerig den Gerichtsvollziehern das Vertrauen in die Rechtssicherung gesichert werden kann. Doch sollten die Gelehrten des Verfassers oder des Schatzers gerade am Ende des Monats abgedrängt sein auf privates Gebiet?

Hamburg, 3. 12.: In einem Prospekt für einen Literarist: heißt es: „... in entzückender Hälfte aus einem neuen Delikatessen. — Nicht abhängend, zusätzl. wetterfest, wasserfest.“ Och, das sind tolle Worte! Wo gäbe e' heutze wohl eine Maid, deren einziger Herzenswunsch es nicht wäre, einen solchen Koffer zu kaufen, wetterfest und wasserfest. Künd zu kaufen: und doch sind wir ein wenig skeptisch, wodurch wir den Literaristen Goethe außerordentlich gelehrten und studiert haben:

„Sie leicht sich ja was sagen läßt: Abhängig, wetterfest, wasserfest! Selbst wenn die Käse französisch schmeckt bei Nebel, Regenschauer, wenn der Regen tröpfelt,

Briefkasten

was meiste, der Sonder-Lippensität, er fährt nicht ab in zivilen Western! Nur Goethe zweifelt ganz allein daran und lachend spricht er dazu: „So was kommt's doch wohl schwerlich geben:“

Drückt mal in nassen Schnee hinein

der Jungfrau Wundwart rücksichtlos —

zur Probe des Kostümes bloß —

gleich habt ihr in dem Schnee entdeckt

den leeren Wund, den zärtlich ihr so oft

geleidet:

„Um furchtigen Abgang haben wir das Leben!“

Heilbronn, Dr. E.: Zu der „Schwäbischen Sonntagspost“ vom 8. 1. 38, Nr. 2 feiert mir folgendes Interat: „Wegen Erkrankung habe ich sofort ein jüngeres Mädchen für Küche und Haushalt bei guter Bezahlung und Behandlung. R... R... Stuttgart-Wangen. St... S...“ Es ist durchaus kein Überglück, wenn sich ein Kranker zur Pflege und Wartung ein junges Mädchen wünscht, denn der Zeichner der Jugend hat schon manchen Kranken seinen Lebensraum und neue Lebenskraft gebracht. Wünschen wir also der Arnionce einen vollen Erfolg und dem Kranken baldige Genesung!

Königsberg, Dr. R.: In der „Königsberger Allgemeinen Zeitung“ vom 6. 12. 38 lese ich unter der Überschrift „Die Kuh im Bett“ eine Notiz aus Spandau über eine bettende Kuh: Berlin heißt es: „Nach langen Suchen entdeckt man, daß das Tier eine dreieinhalf Meter hohe Treppe nach dem Boden gesprießen

war und sich, da sie nicht wieder herunter konnte, auf das Bett eines Kindes gelegt hatte. Als man sie fand, war sie gerade damit beschäftigt, einen vom Kind geschriebenen Brief zu verspielen.“ Benutze die Kuh lieber in dem schönen Bett eindringlich zur Ruhe, begab, wollte sie noch etwas lesen, sie sah den Brief und der gesiebte ihn so gut, daß sie beschoß, daß ich einzudringen.

Straubing, Dr. W.: Im „Straubinger Tagblatt“ vom 12. 12. 38 beginnt unter „Reiboldsdorf“ ein Bericht mit folgenden Werten: „Reiboldsdorf, 12. Dez. Ein Kraftwagen aus Straubing, der ist Dienstleistung einer Regensburger Firma ist, kam am gestrigen Sonntag nachmittag auf den Eugen-Gedunken, Seiten jenseitiger Süding-Kasten in die Donau zum Wüthen zu bringen.“

Warum soll denn, so fragen wir, streng genommen, wenn dem Beichterichter der Käfer entweicht,

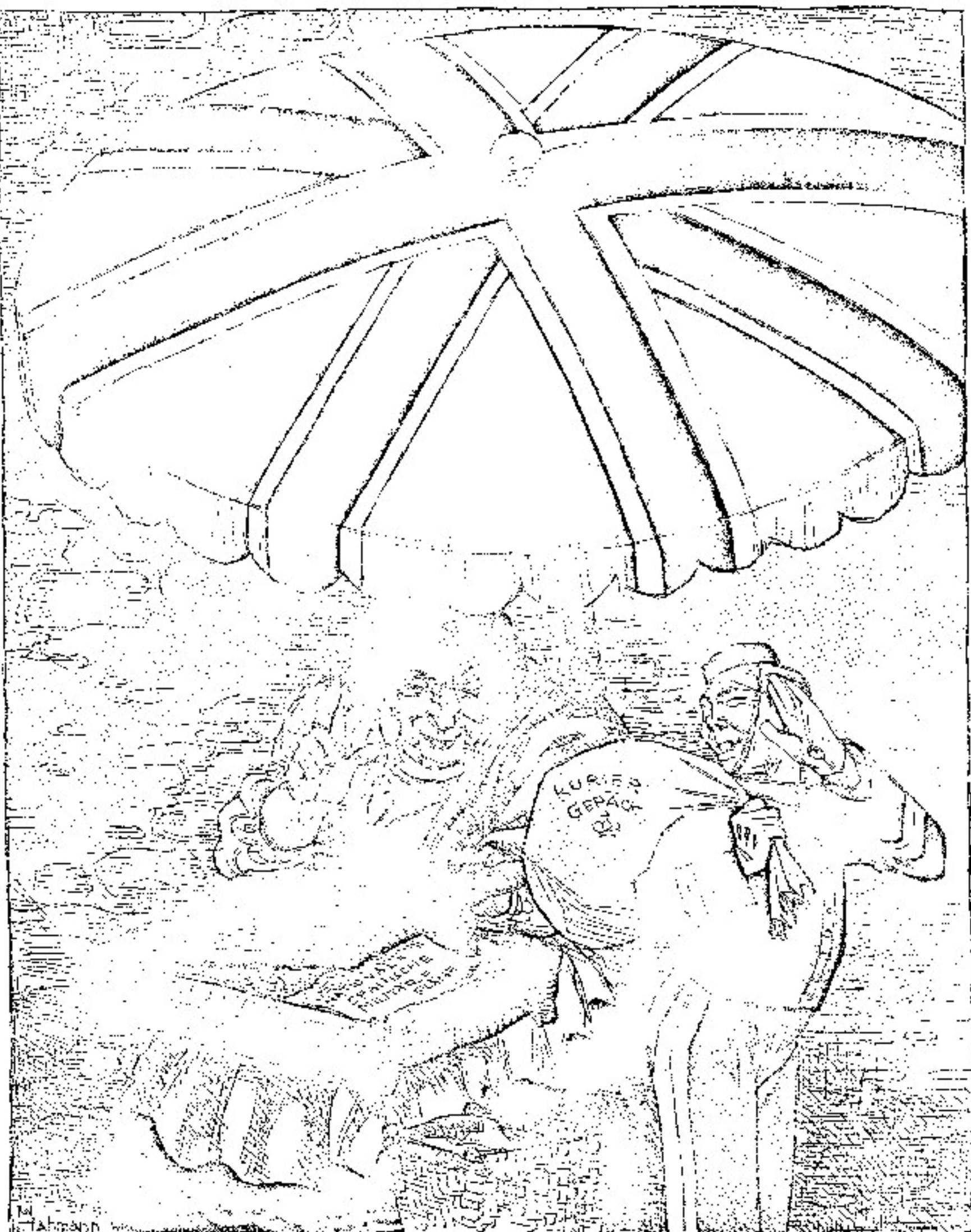
nein ein Kraftwagen auf kluge Gedanken kommt, das wäre doch wohl möglich vielleicht. So trefft der gezielte Leser heut: es werden Beichterichtersleut von einem Straubinger Kraftwagen durch einen Hagen Getötet geschlagen. Vielleicht kommt's dem Kraftwagen noch gelingen,

doch der Beichterichter zum Wüthen zu bringen.

Heilbronn, Dr. E.: Im „Steuern Wiener Journal“ vom 7. 1. 39, Nr. 16214

Der Schutzhirm

Um 1900 wurde ein Motorzeits verhaftet, das über den Ruhrtreis der britischen Sondervertrags Spionage gegen Stationärsbahn betrieb.



Im Büro auf dem Platz da sitzt
zu Marii ein altes Weib.
Sie hat, jedes ihr Ohr sie spürt,
besonders Zeltvertrieb.

Die alte lacht: „Wir kann, hü, hü,
hier fehlt etwas fun;
kenn unter diesem Parapluie
da bin ich ganz kommt.“



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

W.L.

March 16, 1939.

My dear Mr. President:

I thank you for the opportunity to read the accompanying file from the Secretary of State, which I return as requested.

Sincerely yours,

Harold L. Ickes

Secretary of the Interior.

The President,
The White House.

Enc.

TELEGRAM

See Sub
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

To me
March 7, 1939

My dear Mr. President:

With reference to your memorandum of February 7, 1939, I enclose a memorandum prepared by an officer of the European Division concerning the translated broadcast of Chancellor Hitler's speech to the members of the Reichstag on January 30, 1939 and dealing with the printed translation given out in Germany. A copy of the printed translation is also enclosed. It will be noted that a full translation of Chancellor Hitler's speech was not broadcast in this country.

The letter of January 31, 1939 to Secretary Ickes which accompanied your memorandum is returned herewith, a copy having been retained for our files.

Faithfully yours,

Enclosures:

Conrad Shultz

1. Memorandum,
March 6, 1939.
2. Printed translation
of speech.
3. Letter returned.

The President,

The White House.

PSF (General)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
MEMORANDUM

March 6, 1939.

In order to check what was said in the translation of Chancellor Hitler's speech on January 30, 1939 which was broadcast in the United States, I went to the Federal Communications Commission during the past week and through the Commission's courtesy was able to listen to a playing of the records which had recorded the translation sent out from Germany over short wave and received in this country.

In the first instance it should be emphasized that this broadcast was not a full translation of Chancellor Hitler's address, but was a translation of a summary of the address. Repeatedly throughout the broadcast the German translator remarked "The Fuehrer then said"; "The Fuehrer then passed to economic questions"; "The Fuehrer then passed on to some remarks about the past war", et cetera, these interjected phrases covering numerous paragraphs which had been left out of the summary. After concluding his remarks the German announcer stated that the radio audience had been listening to a summary of Chancellor Hitler's speech which had lasted more than two and a quarter hours; and following this, the Mutual Broadcasting System, which handled the translation to which I listened, also referred to what had been heard as an official summary.

The

The duration of the broadcast of the translator's summary was about forty-five minutes.

With regard to Hitler's attacks on democracies, I was able to check verbatim the following passage which is identic with the full translation of that passage from the text of the speech:

"In certain democracies it is apparently one of the special prerogatives of political democratic life to cultivate an artificial hatred of the so-called totalitarian states. A flood of reports, partly misrepresentations of the facts, partly pure invention, are let loose, the aim being to stir up public opinion against nations which have done nothing to harm the other nations and have no desire to harm them, and which indeed have been for years the victims of harsh injustice. When we defend ourselves against such agitators as Mr. George Cooper, Mr. Eden, Mr. Ickes, and the rest, our action is denounced as an encroachment on the sacred rights of the democracies. According to the way these agitators see things, they are entitled to attack other nations and their governments, but no one is entitled to defend himself against such attacks. I need hardly assure you that as long as the German Reich continues to be a sovereign state no English or American politician will be able to forbid our Government to reply to such attacks. And the arms that we are forging are our guarantee for all time to come that we shall remain a sovereign state, our arms and our choice of friends. Actually, the assertion that Germany is planning an attack on America could be disposed of by a mere laugh, and one would prefer to pass over in silence the incessant agitation of certain British war mongers."

Chancellor Hitler's speech was issued in Germany in the first night issue of the semi-official German News Bureau Bulletin of Monday, January 30, 1939. I have made a careful comparison of this German text with the printed translation

translation of the speech issued in Germany and find that
this is a good idiomatic translation.

JK
Eu:Flack:DG

105 F (Q. 1939)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

THE SECRETARY

May 27, 1939.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Respectfully returned to
the President with my best
thanks and those of Mr. Welles.

C. H.

T.S.F. (4-19-39)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 5, 1939.

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE SECRETARY OF STATE
THE UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE

Don't ask me how I got these
but they are extracts from letters
from Dr. Bruning to a friend in
this country. Therefore, please
read and return without copying.

F. D. R.

JOHN W. WHEELER-BENNETT
UNIVERSITY, VIRGINIA

May 3rd, 1939.

Dear Miss LeHand,

I am enclosing the papers concerning which Mr. Franklin Roosevelt, Jr. telephoned to you this afternoon. I thought that very probably they would be of interest to the President. As you see, they are extracts from letters to me from Dr. Brusing, and are, therefore, of a personal and confidential nature.

With sincere regards,

Yours sincerely,

John W. Wheeler-Bennett

Miss Marguerite LeHand,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

May 5, 1939.

Dear Bunny:-

I received the copies of the
extracts of the letters from Wheeler-Pennatt.
[75]
They are intensely interesting and will you
thank him for letting me see them?

Affectionately,

Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., Esq.,
Charlottesville,
Virginia.

Extracts from letters to J. W. W.-B. from H. B.

April 21st, 1939.

Just a few lines to go with the "Aquitania". I had a hurried visit this morning lasting only for ten minutes, but I shall see my friend again to-night, which would be too late to write to you. He says that full mobilization against Poland will begin earliest on 10th May. It might be that the Army was able to postpone it for another six weeks, but Hitler has made up his mind to risk a general war for the sake of crushing Poland. As matters stand that decision is unalterable. He realizes that on account of the new foreign policy of England there is no chance for him left after the summer. He and Mussolini will try to get hold of Yugoslavia by way of a veiled Protectorate before the mobilization against Poland begins. I suppose that Mussolini is trying to build up a predominance in the Balkans against the new British policy but will not go further. Judging from his and Ciano's speech he does not seem to be inclined to do more for Hitler than to immobilize a large part of the French and Italian forces, and to raise his price or fish in troubled waters. That would, of course, not prevent him from stirring up the fighting mood of Hitler, as that would increase his power and deliver him from the danger of a permanent strategical preponderance of Nazi Germany at his Northern Frontiers.

I think in this his policy he has been strengthened by the Roosevelt message and by the fact that he realizes that Mr. Chamberlain is no longer more than a figurehead in British foreign policy. Winston Churchill was cheered enormously when he came to speak at a dinner of the British Industrialists. The cheering was so pronounced that it looked like a demonstration against Mr. Chamberlain. I believe that the message of President Roosevelt combined with the despatching of the Fleet to the Pacific has had a very salubrious effect upon the Japanese. In fact, their position is at least as desperate as that of Hitler; for both nothing else is left than to risk the whole future of their country or else to back down, with unavoidable internal reactions. Mussolini is the only one who is still able to escape the necessity of passing between Scylla and Charybdis.

There are well-informed and serious people in Germany who believe that there will be riots as soon as the mobilization begins. Of course I am not so sure about this, but revolts will break out after the first military set-back. The number of deserters at the Polish Frontier is extraordinarily high already now. The Polish pretend that a fortnight ago the men of one whole battery, including the non-commissioned officers, deserted from Silesia to Poland. However that may be, there is no doubt about it that the French Secret Service, especially M. Comeret,

is working hard together with German emigrants to lay the foundations for a great Danubian Confederation from the "Mündung bis zur Quelle". It is the same scheme already tried once before in the years after the war. The friends of Gerald Palmer and others assured me that England would not have anything to do with such schemes, but I have my doubts. As soon as the first German bombs are dropped over London brutal instincts will prevail here also and no reasonable people will have any power left in that respect.

April 24th, 1939.

From all that I heard from these visitors there can be no longer any doubt about the fact that earliest the 10th of May, latest the beginning of July, the drive against Poland will begin. The Army is only able to make opposition against a too early term but not against the adventure as such. Generaloberst von Bock, Commander-in-Chief of an Army group, has now been put upon the retired list as well. He was still good. Now with the exception of a very few, the General Staff officers are acquiescing in what Hitler says. Even one of the younger General Staff officers whom I still knew and who had still some experience from the last war has said recently that he gave up any criticism after he heard that France and England did not take action.

after the occupation of Bohemia and Moravia which gave them guns, ammunition and supplies for 40 divisions which so far largely existed only as cadres. He said if he had been the British or French Prime Minister, he would have rather committed suicide than to accept this new conquest as an accomplished fact without further reaction.

These decent people must get bewildered. I heard that Bonnet had arranged in January with Ribbentrop to sell to Germany 1,200,000 t. of wheat. During the last three months the export of scrap, iron and nonferrous metals from England to Germany was on a record scale. There are now such enormous stocks of grain in Germany that in spite of the fact that the drill halls of all schools are full of grain, the big estates have not been able to sell their harvest as the Government has no more room left for storing it.

The lead in international politics in the democratic camp is now definitely with France. I saw Margerie when I went to get my French visa for my journey to Switzerland. He shares my pessimism absolutely and said that there is hardly any chance to avoid war. He had the confidence now that the French Generals were preparing themselves for a long war of attrition -- 10 years he said smiling -- and that all hopes for a quick victory had gone except that they all thought that the morale of the German Army was a terribly low one. That seems to be true unfortunately. He tried

to explain to me that the main fault of the men in September was with the French politicians who refused to give any hint last September even to suggestive questions put to them by Ch. and Sir John Simon if they were prepared to fight if Hitler asked for more than an autonomy for the Sudeten Germans. He said if the war really came, about which he had no longer any doubts, he was afraid that there would be just enough left of the French youth to make a victory parade at the Champs Elysees. What depresses me so much is that people like him who are very decent talk such things apparently without any emotion, perhaps because they prefer an end to the strain of the last years to any faint hope of saving the lives of hundreds of thousands of people.

I was very interested in what you wrote about your conversations with Benes. I am glad he agreed with you about the turning point in 1932. I believe he is now again in a role for which he is better fitted than for constructive statesmanship. The Czechs are doing well in pinpricking demonstrations. They are the most gifted nation for that. But if Mussolini and Hitler win Jugoslavia over and can concentrate against Poland and Rumania they have to wait a long time before getting their freedom back.

But as regards Mussolini's policy, I have some doubt left if it is really a policy in loyal concordance with Hitler. I would be very sure of it and was so until to-day when reading in "The Times" that Mussolini is quite definitely following

a policy which increases his own power in relation to the Nazis. "The Times" have been always wrong which seems to be in England an essential condition to keep the favour of the public in politics.

The Nazis say that Mussolini had his first stroke -- if I remember well -- on Easter. They also tell some other nasty things about him. However that may be, there is no doubt that his voice in his speech at the laying of the cornerstone of the Exhibition was so weak and low that I was struck very much not having then heard these other news. . . .

My heart is suffering even physically each hour of the day when I come to think with what brutality the German people will be treated if something similar happens or if the war is lost. The French have already made up their mind for destroying the German Reich for ever, and that is the fear of all these fine patriots who came to see me. But when I escaped so often during the war in a most miraculous way death and captivity against all expectations of my commanders, I often said to myself I shall never to go through a purgatory for that all my lifetime.



PSF: [Signature]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

June 17, 1939

My dear Mr. President:

Mr. Meassersmith has sent me a copy of a letter which he received under date of May 23 from Dr. Brining. He has asked me to decide whether you would be interested in reading this letter. Inasmuch as I believe you will find it an extremely interesting document, I am sending it to you herewith for your information.

Believe me

Faithfully yours,

Enc.

The President,
The White House.

PSF
London, 23rd May, 1939.

Copy

Dear Mr. Messersmith:

I meant to write to you since a long time, but I have been unable to do so as long as I was staying in Holland and Switzerland during the past six weeks. It gives you perhaps an idea of how far the infiltration of the Nazi Secret Police, at least in Holland, has gone if I tell you that my friends in Germany informed me before going to Holland that I could only stay there and see visitors from Germany if my visit to Holland was kept secret from the Dutch police and that I should mail no letters from there. The name of the most important police officers working together with the Nazi Secret Service has been even notified to the Dutch Government who, however, does not dare to take action in the matter. Of course otherwise as regards military preparation Holland is now up to date and the whole country as well as Switzerland reminded me of the aspect of the Flanders plain three or four miles behind our front line before the British offensive began in the summer of 1917.

I was able to send a few lines to Mr. Wheeler-Bennett through safe channels which I asked him to forward to you.

In Holland and Switzerland as well as here I have seen a lot of people coming from Germany, some of them very shrewd observers, others who have the best connections with leading Nazi people. To be quite frank, I must confess that I am unable to come to any definite conclusion about the future policy of the Nazis. Nobody was able to explain to me why there were cadre manoeuvres on the Dutch frontier in February, and why some

most

most influential Nazis under the influence of liquor had given details about the plans against Holland. There was an enormous concentration of food stores and ammunition along the Dutch frontier since 15th January. For about three weeks there were several special mechanised divisions staying along the Dutch border. Personally I have come to the conclusion that all these preparations were intended partly to hide the attack against Czechoslovakia and partly to be ready for a future situation. When the news reached me of the intended attack against Prague during the first week after I returned from the United States I found everybody here in a very optimistic mood in spite of the fact that the same people as I heard afterwards, whom I mentioned in my exposé given to you personally in January, had been in London and had warned the British Government of the coming events. But the British military attaché at a dinner party on the eve of the march into Bohemia said to his German guests that he was now satisfied that the threatening action against Bohemia had been cancelled.

I have come to the conclusion not to listen too much to all these informations which I was given and rather, as I have done formerly, to construct coming events in assuming that Hitler would make his next move where from the general political and military point of view it would be the best for him. Of course in doing so I cannot exclude the possibility of his wavering between his final ambition of showing once his military genius in a big decisive battle, and his fear of losing everything if

war really breaks out.

But in leaving out this last consideration I can only say that I firmly believe that Hitler has made up his mind definitely to get hold of Danzig and the Corridor before the winter. The "Day" is now fixed for 15th June. On the 1st June a large number of reserves will be called to the Colours and on 15th another batch. The ammunition trains are running day and night to the Eastern border, railway lines are mostly reserved for these purposes so that the troops are mostly moving on foot to the Eastern frontier. One would hardly fall short in estimating that there are already some million people concentrated on the Eastern border.

In spite of the fact that Hitler is trying to speed up all preparations the army is endeavouring to persuade him that their preparations will not be ready before the end of July. How far they will be successful in this their policy remains to be seen. There is no doubt that while the Army after the march into Prague was nearly unanimously convinced of the infallibility of Hitler's political and military foresight, it is much less confident of a success now. At the moment defeatism is very strong again in the Army. That defeatism was even more outspoken until a fortnight ago on account of the impressions of the German General Staff that Mussolini would not stand by the Axis longer than six months. Of course as regards Italy there will be now more confidence, although it might be fair to assume that a new treaty between Italy and Germany will also mean a brake on Hitler's moves. How

effective

effective these brakes will be again I am unable to guess even.

The greatest impression made upon the Generals of the German Army has been the Anglo-Turkish defensive alliance. This is mostly for sentimental reasons in the same way as the Anglo-Russian negotiations. There is no doubt that since six weeks efforts were being made on the part of the German General Staff to come to better terms with Stalin. I was told that these tentative negotiations are handled by General Suroky. This might appear strange, but everything is strange at the moment in the internal life of Czechoslovakia. There is an influential group of people who wish to come to even closer relations with the Nazis. The Anglo-Polish Alliance so far has not made a very great impression upon neither the Nazis nor the General Staff. Everything in the British policy comes too late to prevent the war, or at least to check Hitler in taking further risks. I cannot believe that Hitler really intends to make a bold military stroke against Poland. The Danzig question will be cleverly approached by him from within the city of Danzig in a way that in some weeks time Danzig from a military and political point of view will be a Nazi bulwark without any open hostility or without denouncing the existing Treaty. If this goal is reached the defence of the Corridor on the part of the Poles will be no longer possible. It is conceivable that they might prefer to evacuate the Corridor at a given moment, and try to make a stand from the old line of Russian defence 40 miles west of Warsaw. I do not believe that Hitler will follow there. He will sit still after

having

having got back the Corridor.

Such a military policy is not only advisable for Hitler from a purely military point of view but also in respect to the military situation here, in London. There are still great hesitations in the British policy and appeasement is not yet dead. If Hitler follows a policy as explained above he might be able at each turning point of this policy to find some support here in England and in France which might lead to a postponement again and again of any really decisive and outspoken action on the part of Poland's western allies.

I suppose that Hitler's personal optimism as regards the Polish question is based upon such and similar calculations.

So far the Army will agree with him. They will disagree fully with him of course as soon as they come to the conclusion that in spite of initial military and diplomatic successes Germany might be forced to fight a long war as to the end of which they have not the slightest doubt. I come to the conclusion that the Generals are pondering these things and are, therefore wavering and hesitating, thus I am afraid in spite of the many optimistic informations to the contrary they will not move in time to prevent definitely a war. People who waver and have not made up their minds firmly will never take the right decision at the most opportune moment. That is the point upon which my pessimism is really based, as much as I would wish that the Corridor question could be solved in the only possible natural way for the interests of Germany I cannot accept the

method

method for its solution which ultimately might lead to a long and general war.

The method of the mobilisation going on since some time in Germany are such that I do not believe that there will be any resistance of any importance on the part of the soldiers called to the colours, nor will there be any resistance possible on the part of the civilian population. Big new concentration camps are being built for more than 150,000 people for all local leaders of the former parties, former officials and respected men of the trade unions and also of a very large part of the Catholic and protestant clergy. The aim is, of course, to deprive the people even to the remotest village of any potential leader. I believe that the method will be official enough to prevent any serious resistance. It will be carried out in spite of the fact that the Army is not fond at all of such methods, being well aware that in such a way the débâcle will be even greater later on if there is any serious set back from the military point of view. As to the whole opinion of the more farsighted Generals one gets the best impression from the new book published by General von Metzsch which you will have seen quoted in the press. Unfortunately in a way absolutely contrary to the real intentions of this excellent man.

To my great dismay the Navy has lost all balance of judgment in international politics. I am unable to give an explanation for this fact.

I have been told that a so-called peace step on the part

of

of the new Pope resulted from the strong advice given by Mussolini to Hitler who suddenly made up his mind to follow such an advice. For me, of course, there can be no doubt that the leanings of the present Pope are very much pro-Italian and pro-Fascist. I was very astonished to see articles in all prominent papers of the world to the contrary.

As regards the feelings here, in London, I can only say that everybody nearly reckons with the possibility of war in July although as it is quite understandable people from time to time like to indulge in optimism. But as you know there is no great and constructive lead here. From year to year I get more and more amazed at the lack of vision in British policy. I was asked urgently to see one of the most prominent figures in British politics no longer in power since two years. I found the greatest and friendliest understanding for the future and the needs of the German nation. But I was astonished to find that this gentleman like so many others hoped that there would be in time another Government in Germany which would then find the fullest support of the British nation. I thought to myself: "Es ist zu schön um wahr zu sein".

My plans are to stay here if the crisis comes until war breaks out and then to go at once to Ireland and to sail from there by an American steamer to the United States. Otherwise I shall stay here until the middle of September.

May I make quite frankly one suggestion. I don't think a new step on the part of President Roosevelt like his telegram to

Hitler

Hitler and Mussolini would be very helpful in the weeks to come. The answer which the Nazis will give is apt to confound the German people. It might be different if the President perhaps at the end of July would make some open step to call in a conference of the five or six main Powers which might be met by a refusal on the part of Hitler but not perhaps by Mussolini. Of course it should be done in a way that Hitler does not get the impression that a new Munich is in preparation. He must be frightened of the consequences for the moral of the German army and the German nation if he gives a blank refusal. It should not come too early and I do not press this suggestion too strongly. My wish and my hopes are that President Roosevelt maintains such a position which would enable him to render far more important services as a mediator and arbiter at a given phase when war really has started. In expressing such an opinion I take into consideration the real feelings of the majority of the Army and of the vast majority of the German nation which are strongly against any war. I shall of course not make the slightest suggestion of this kind when I meet your Ambassador some time next week as he has asked me to come to see him. I have hesitated very much to go to see him, but now I would like to find out what is true in all the stories going all around the press in London about his feelings towards the Nazis.

I have not seen Dr. Brettauer since I came back to Europe. Having in mind the terrible fate of his cousin Strakosch of Vienna he left during the war scare Switzerland and was hesitating

to go back there. He was offered an identification card on the part of the French Government which he accepted before my letter reached him. He told me on the 'phone before he left for Canada and the United States that he would be very eager to come back to your suggestion which you so kindly made. As regards the other gentleman, I got a letter from Professor Tannhauser in Boston, who is his friend, telling me that his friend went to the American Consul in Berlin but was told that they couldn't do anything for him. I wrote back to Professor Tannhauser for details which I would then forward to you but I have not had any reply although my letter has been sent to Professor Tannhauser before I left for Holland. That is two months ago.

As soon as I hear from him I will write to you again.

I hope the strain of the last months has not overtaxed your health, and that events in Europe will leave you time to have a holiday.

Please give my best wishes to Mrs. Messersmith.

Very cordially and respectfully yours,

H. BRUNING

Re: FDR

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 20, 1939.

MEMORANDUM FOR
THE UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE

In regard to the New York Times story, I think it would be a good idea to send a confidential letter (not for publication) to Arthur Sulzberger calling his attention to the fact that the New York Times story is not correct news.

F. D. R.

PSF [initials]
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

June 17, 1939

My dear Mr. President:

The following additional information may be of interest to you in connection with our conversation regarding the New York Times story that Germany is constructing a large air base in Bolivia.

On June 6, 1939 the American Minister in La Paz telegraphed the Department that the New York Times story had been categorically denied by several La Paz newspapers including La Nacion, the official organ of the Government. On June 7, 1939 the Minister telegraphed the Department that reliable sources regarded this story as entirely misleading, without foundation, and prejudicial to our interests in Bolivia.

During a conversation with the Chief of the Division of the American Republics, the Bolivian Minister in Washington spoke at some length about this matter. The Minister said that the Lloyd Aereo Boliviano had been organized during 1924 and 1925 by a group of German

businessmen

The President,

The White House.

businessmen resident in Bolivia, with a small part of the stock held by the Bolivian Government. Subsequently, during the Chaco War, the number of planes in use was increased through financial help given by the Bolivian Government and by several wealthy Bolivians. In view of the changed circumstances, the Lloyd Aereo Boliviano was reorganized after the war on the basis of the actual values contributed by private capital and by the Government, and it appears that today the Government owns about 80 percent of the stock participation in the company, the remainder still being controlled largely by Germans resident in Bolivia.

The Minister expressed the opinion that it was fantastic to link the present Lloyd Aereo Boliviano with any plans for German aviation expansion in South America. He wanted this Government to know that his Government preferred to use American aviation equipment in lieu of the equipment of any other country. He commented upon the unfortunate experience that Bolivia has had in connection with an order for Italian planes placed about a year and a half ago. The planes, which have only recently arrived in Bolivia, have proved entirely unsatisfactory and the Bolivian Government has instituted suit in Italy against the company to recover the purchase price on the grounds that the planes were not what they were represented to be.

The

The Minister expressed the opinion that the operations of the Lufthansa in South America should be very carefully watched by our Government. He thought that it might well be possible that the Lufthansa was planning to expedite service to the West Coast of South America by flying directly across Brazil from Pernambuco, stopping at Trinidad, Bolivia, and thence through Bolivia to Peru.

The records available in the Department of State do not corroborate the view that the Bolivian Government owns 80 percent of the stock of Lloyd Aereo Boliviano. They indicate that by 1936 the Government had acquired a substantial but minority holding of the stock and that wealthy native-born Bolivian citizens owned almost Bs. 600,000 of the stock. In addition Bolivian banks held at least Bs. 600,000 of stock but whether such holdings were genuinely for native-born Bolivian citizens is not known. The paid up capitalization and reserve funds of the Company in 1936 was reportedly only Bs. 1,747,290.30. By the present time this capitalization is undoubtedly considerably higher; the Company's legal limit is understood to be Bs. 5,000,000. The Board of Directors has a majority of native-born Bolivian citizens but the Chairman, Treasurer, and Counselor are still understood to be Germans, as are the President and the Manager of the Company. Whether any

of these Germans may be naturalized Bolivian citizens may be immaterial, since such a status would not necessarily affect the German citizenship and loyalties of the men referred to. Germany does not recognize the severance of German citizens by means of such naturalization.

The Company is a Lufthansa affiliate and connects with Syndicato Condor, another Lufthansa affiliate, for direct air service to Europe. Most of the Company's pilots are reported by American aviation interests still to be Germans although the Company declared in 1936 that only twenty-five percent of its pilots were "foreigners" and that ten percent of its mechanics were "foreigners". All the flight equipment is German (the planes are Junkers). The operating control is German. And an extensive interchange of personnel appears constantly to be taking place between the company and Syndicato Condor, with Condor apparently exercising technical supervision over the company's Junkers planes. It seems certain that the Lloyd Aereo Boliviano is an integral part of the Condor-Lufthansa aviation system in South America and involved in the expansion plans of that system.

The Bolivian Government, under its contract with the Company, exercises full control over the Company in any internal or external emergency situation, and it may be

that

that the Government is influential in deciding the operating policy of the Company in as much as the Company is heavily subsidized by the Government. The most recent information is that the subsidy is Rs. 160,000 monthly, aside from governmental appropriations in the nature of special subsidies.

Further data is being sought by the Department in the hope of establishing the real facts concerning the relationship between the Government and the Company.

Faithfully yours,

Under Secretary

[Signature]

Germany
June 24, 1939

Memo for Gen. Watson
From Sumner Welles

Attaches conf despatches from Amb Biddle marked
for the President

No. 1069, dated June 1, 1939 concerning the pos-
sible reopening of negotiations affecting Danzig
and the Corridor;

No. 1072, dated June 3, 1939 reporting the sub-
stance of a conversation with the Polish Ambas-
sador to Great Britain on Anglo-German differences;

No 1074, dated June 3, 1939 concerning status of
Polish attempts to obtain British financial
assistance.

No. 1075, dated June 3, 1939 concerning reaction
in official Polish circles to Tjolostov's address
of May 31, 1939.

See Poland4 folder-Foreign File--Drawer 1--1939

See memo
11

Memo for Gen. Watson
From Sumner Welles
July 12, 1939

attaches conf despatches from Amb Biddle which
are marked for President

No 1079, dated June 9, 1939 reporting reaction
of Polish officials to Berlin's present attitude
toward Poland;

No 1083, dated June 9, 1939 concerning activi-
ties of German Ambassador at Warsaw.

See Poland File-Foreign file --Drawer 1-1939

Germany

Mem to Watson
From Sumner Welles
July 10, 1939

Two conf despatches from Biddle

No-1000, dated June 7, 1939 concerning
official Polish reports on Italo-German
relations;

No-1100, dated June 23, 1939 concerning
the propaganda campaign conducted by the
German, Japanese, and Italian Embassies
in Warsaw.

See-Poland folder-Drawer 1-1039

PSF: *German*
PAP

GRAY

BERLIN

Dated August 24, 1939

Rec'd 5:35 p.m.

Secretary of State

Washington

891, August 24, 7 p.m.

My 879, August 24, 9 a.m.

The evening papers are largely devoted to praise of the German-Soviet non-aggression pact and to descriptions of the crushing blow which it delivered to the plans of the encirclement powers. Editorials emphasize its clarity as well as the scope of its provisions which in a few words take into consideration the interests of both powers and contract the speed with which it was drawn up to the endless negotiations conducted in Moscow by Great Britain. In the latter connection after underlining the advantages to both powers which have historically resulted in close cooperation between Germany and Russia the BOERSEN-ZEITUNG declares that the natural basis for an accord had been so clear that little more than a week was required for preparation of the pact and only one day for its final drafting.

In the concluding paragraph of its leading editorial the NACHTAUSGABE expresses the hope that Chamberlain and

Doladier

PAP -2- 891, August 24, 7 p.m. from Berlin

Dolledier realize that last night Great Britain and France lost "the law of action" which they had assumed for themselves in eastern Europe and states that for the next ten years the German and Russian people will determine developments in this area without any wish of cooperation from Great Britain or France.

KIRK

NPL

PSF/

HR

This message must be
closely paraphrased be-
fore being communicated
to anyone. (D)

Berlin

Dated August 24, 1939

Rec'd 4:47 p.m.

Secretary of State
Washington

687, Aug. 24, 3 p.m.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

My 882, Aug. 24, 11 a.m.

I have just seen the British Ambassador and he gave me the following brief account of his representations to Hitler yesterday: Instructions from London reached the Ambassador during the night of August 22 and after communicating with a member of Hitler's Secretariat and with Weizsaecker an appointment was made for yesterday at Berchtesgaden. In the conversation with Weizsaecker regarding the appointment the Ambassador was asked to indicate the nature of the representations which he proposed to make and he also gave assurances as to the secrecy surrounding the representations. The Ambassador left Berlin at nine in the morning of the 23rd and as stated in my 882, August 24, 11 a.m. had two conversations with Hitler one of which lasted about forty-five minutes.

Henderson confirmed the statement contained in my

telegram

-2- Tel. #887, Aug. 24, 3 p.m. from Berlin.

telegram under reference as to the intensity and violence which Hitler displayed especially on the matter of alleged Polish outrages against Germans which he said had driven Germany to the final limit of patience. The Ambassador then outlined in brief the points in Chamberlain's letter as to the restatement of the British position, the suggested discussion in an improved atmosphere of problems of interest to the two countries, and the matter of recommendation to the Polish Government on the minorities question in Poland. The Ambassador also outlined Hitler's reply to the effect that he took cognizance of the statement of the British position but could not be influenced thereby, that certain subjects of conflict between Poland and Germany must be settled of which Danzig and the Corridor were mentioned in the last instance, and that continued mobilization measures in England and France would be answered by a declaration of general mobilization in Germany. Henderson also stated that Hitler indicated that he was convinced that England intended to fight Germany eventually and that he preferred to have war now than five or ten years hence. Hitler also said in reply to a suggestion by Henderson that Germany discuss matters with Poland that no

good

-3- Tel. #887, Aug. 24, 3 p.m. from Berlin.

good purpose could be served thereby in view of the support which England was giving to Polish intransigence.

In conclusion Henderson stated that in his opinion a definite decision will be taken upon Ribbentrop's return today, that an ultimatum will be delivered to the Poles accompanied or followed by some action in Danzig (?) general mobilization will then be declared in Germany. He added that he understood that the Polish Ambassador had just received instructions to see Weizsaecker but that the State Secretary could not be located this morning and that he hoped Lipski or even Beck would see Hitler although he might refuse to see them and that in any event it was probably too late for such a demarche to have effect.

I should add that owing to the pressure under which Henderson is working his conversation with me was brief and in no way exhaustive.

KIRK

HTM:NPL

W. W.
CJ

PLAIN

PSF: *Herzog*

BERLIN

Dated August 25, 1939

Rec'd 5:53 a.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

RUSH.

893, August 25, 10 a.m.

Department's 376, August 24, 9 p.m.

Received 8 a.m. today. No mention of the President's messages appears in the morning papers and in reply to inquiries made by press correspondents here at Foreign Office and Propaganda Ministry the statements were made that nothing was known of the messages at those Ministries.

KIRK

CFW

PSF
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

THE SECRETARY

Mr. Secretary, I would
Very, very ^{high} ~~high~~
intimating

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Ronnie Smith
Franklin D. Roosevelt
August 25, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE SECRETARY OF STATE
and
THE UNDER SECRETARY

To read and return.

F. D. R.

Enclosures

TP. 5.1.1

All communications to be addressed to the Secretary.

Telephone: WHITEHALL 2924

FRIENDS OF EUROPE

122, ST. STEPHEN'S HOUSE,
VICTORIA EMBANKMENT, WESTMINSTER, LONDON, S.W.1

8th August, 1939.

Miss le Yaud,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.,
U.S.A.

Dear Miss le Yaud,

I had a letter from our friend, Mr. Harold Laski, the other day, in which he suggested that the enclosed Memorandum might, with advantage, be sent to you for transmission to the President. I have much pleasure in sending you this copy, and take the liberty of including particulars about our work.

Yours sincerely,

Franklin D. Roosevelt

Secretary.

Enc. - letter
& No. 17 P.I.S.

All communications to be addressed to the Secretary.

Telephone: WHITEHALL 2924.

FRIENDS OF EUROPE

BRITISH ASSOCIATION

122, ST. STEPHEN'S HOUSE,
WESTMINSTER,
LONDON, S.W.1.

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AIMS:

- 1 To encourage effective co-operation for the prevention of World-War and the establishment of peace.
- 2 To provide accurate information about National-Socialist Germany for use throughout Great Britain, the British Empire, the U.S.A., Europe and wherever the English tongue is known.
- 3 To promote on the basis of a nationally-accepted foreign policy, a united, prepared nation, determined to resist aggression, and to maintain and develop the practice of British democratic traditions and ideals based on personal responsibility and freedom.
- 4 To oppose domination in Europe by any one Power and to work for a United Europe, based on respect for law and for the rights of small nations.
- 5 To seek, in pursuit of these aims common understanding, unity of purpose and civic co-operation in the British Commonwealth of Nations and throughout the world.

June, 1939.

Dear Friend,

The British Association seeks during this year of National Emergency, 1939, to secure the best and widest possible use of the "Friends of Europe" information service.

In addition to the maintenance of the Pamphlet and Monthly Survey of German Publications, we shall send out during 1939 a private translation service, based on day-to-day readings of the German press and publications, as well as documents which reach us from various sources, concerning Nazi-Germany.

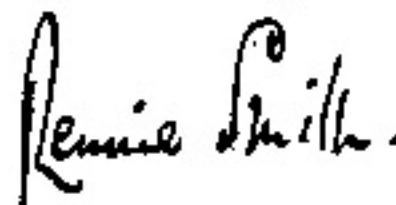
We need hardly say every effort will be made to provide reliable and vital information.

The Private Information Service is intended primarily for use in Great Britain. Friends abroad, whom we have consulted, advise that this service, notwithstanding the time-lag in delivery, should be available for them too.

We are therefore arranging an inclusive subscription of \$6 to cover all three publications.

Our work, now in its 6th year of critical and scholarly examination of Nazi-Germany, has been sustained and made possible by donations from those who have come to value it. We are grateful for such DONATIONS as have come from citizens of the U.S.A. and should welcome a growth of help from this source so long as the crisis lasts.

Yours faithfully,



Secretary.

I enclose \$6 being subscription for one year, for the service of the three publications.

I enclose \$..... being a donation to your funds.

Name.....

Address.....

All cheques should be made payable to :

The Secretary, Friends of Europe

(For Private Circulation Only).

AIMS AND METHODS OF GERMAN POLICY.

(The following Memorandum is a digest of notes written by a competent Swiss after a lively discussion with a representative German Nazi. The discussion, which took place just before Lord Halifax's recent speech, was so heated that the German may have said more than he had intended to say. The conclusions from his statements were drawn by his interlocutor).

I.

The ultimate aim of German policy is to create a World Empire of unassassable strength without the risks of a world war.

In 1938 the immediate aim of German policy was to subjugate Czechoslovakia. In 1939 its immediate aim is to subjugate Poland without war, or, at worst, after a short localised war. Germany does not yet feel strong enough to face any long war.

The very conditions that bid Hitler avoid a long war are, however, driving him to carry through, without delay, another stage of his programme by the subjugation of Poland and of the Baltic and the Danubian States.

Only when this has been done will there be a prospect of comparative tranquillity while Germany organises and coordinates, politically and economically, the territories between her own borders and those of Russia. Then further stages in his programme will be either:

(1) To undermine, disintegrate and revolutionise Soviet Russia; or

(2) To link the Russian "Raum" or "space" with the "Imperial Space" of the great German World Empire; or

(3) In the event of resistance, to win a war against the Western Powers.

Hitler is now seeking good relations with Moscow in the hope of localising or isolating his conflict with Poland, not because his "imperial aims" in the East have changed. Only in the light of these aims can his methods for the subjugation of Poland be understood.

II.

Up to the end of 1938 Hitler believed that his Eastern policy could be carried through with Polish help. He intended, therefore, to maintain the German-Polish pact of

1934 and gradually to bring Danzig into the Third Reich by "peaceful means" without disturbing Polish economic interests in Danzig. He hoped that this policy would be tolerated by Great Britain and France while Rumania was also being brought, with Polish cooperation, into the German sphere of influence. A basis for the disintegration of the Russian Ukraine would thus have been assured. Only then would the Polish Ukraine be "liberated" in its turn, and the full German claims be enforced upon Poland.

These plans were thwarted by the Polish alliances with Great Britain and France. Should the Western Powers now attempt, with or without Russian help, to block his road to the East, Hitler will treat Poland as his most dangerous foe because she now stands, as Czechoslovakia stood last year, at the most vulnerable angle of Germany's military position. Poland must, therefore, be forced out of the anti-German coalition by any and every means.

Hitler's immediate purpose is less to bring about a final revision of German-Polish frontiers than the association of Poland with German "space policy" by setting up at Warsaw a Polish Government as obedient to Germany as are the Hungarian and the Slovak Governments. The only territorial changes that Hitler would at once demand from Poland would be such as to "guarantee" Polish subservience.

III.

Hitler hopes this can be done without war by a method compounded of mobilisation, threats of aggression, propaganda and diplomacy. The first step will be to bring Danzig into union with Germany without provoking war. Despite the Anglo-Polish alliance the British are expected to favour this "peaceful development. Since the territory of Danzig is not Polish, and there are no Polish troops within it, Germany need take no military action against Poland if Danzig proclaims its union with the Reich and is therupon occupied by German troops. The onus of military attack on Germany or Danzig would then fall upon Poland together with the "moral responsibility" for such "aggression".

German propaganda attaches great importance to this consideration both as regards its effect upon the German people and in foreign countries.

Hitler reckons that Poland will shrink from this responsibility, especially if German diplomacy and propaganda can gain the ear of Great Britain and Russia for a "peaceful solution".

Should the Anglo-French negotiations in Moscow yield no result or end in an "elastic" treaty, Germany would count upon a revival of "defeatism" in Western Europe and upon a decline in British and French readiness to "fight for Danzig". Poland, it is thought, would then have to keep quiet.

Hitler does not propose to occupy Danzig by any "brutal" or sudden stroke, however swift may be the successive phases of a "peaceful settlement". His method is to boycott all Polish authorities and businesses in Danzig; to militarise the city by German "Free Corps" and police, Brown Shirts and Black Guards; to intensify the smuggling of arms and stores into Danzig from East Prussia, and to fortify the Danzig-Polish border so that the proclamation of actual union will be a mere legal formality to regularise a de facto situation which Western Europe will already have tolerated.

If union with Danzig can thus be brought about there will be a link to allow Polish disappointment - fostered by German propaganda and diplomacy - to disappear the Polish people. German propaganda will dwell upon Poland's loss of prestige both among the Poles themselves and throughout the East and South East of Europe. It will promote political disturbances in Poland so as to bring on a change of Government at Warsaw, a reversal of the "Western tendency" of Polish foreign policy in favour of a German-Polish alliance. Revolutionary and separatist movements will be organised in the Polish Ukraine in order to compel any Warsaw Government to ask Germany for a free hand in suppressing them.

Germany is unlikely to make new territorial demands on Poland immediately after the occupation of Danzig. They will only be made when Poland has been forced out of the coalition with the Western Powers, and when the Warsaw Government has on its hands the rebellious movements in the Polish Ukraine. But after the diplomatic defeat of Poland in Danzig strong pressure will be put on the Baltic and Danubian States to seek "protection" by joining Germany or the Axis "voluntarily".

In this way Hitler expects to resume the policy, interrupted in the Spring of 1939, of linking Poland with the Axis system and of extending this system to all other States between Germany and Russia.

IV.

Should Poland nevertheless fight for Danzig Hitler will not rely solely upon military action against her. Before union is proclaimed the main strength of the German army will be concentrated on the borders of Poland while the "Siegfried Line" will be defensively held in the West. A Polish attack would be answered by a German counter-attack with the aim of crushing the Polish army in the region between Bromberg, (Bydgoszcz) and Poznan. This attack would turn the flanks of the Polish army from East Prussia, Pomerania and Silesia, a "lightning" occupation of Upper Silesia being carried out simultaneously so as to cut away the chief centre of Polish industry.

This, Hitler thinks, could be done in a few weeks. Germany does not intend to pursue the Poles to Warsaw or beyond. She intends to offer Poland an "honourable peace" on the morrow of a crushing defeat, and to exploit this offer by propaganda in Western Europe particularly.

Though Hitler still hopes that the Western Powers will be militarily inactive at the beginning of a German-Polish war, especially if Poland were the "aggressor", he feels the urgency of ending such a war quickly so as to leave the Western Powers no opening for intervention. A peace offer would influence the Poles themselves as well as the Western peoples in favour of "peace"; and if the West remains inactive the Poles will be told that they must come to terms with Germany before it is too late. In the event of a French attack upon Germany, its chances of success would be belittled.

By an "honourable peace" Hitler understands the cession to Germany of the "Corridor" as far as the line Schneidomühl-Bromberg-Thorn-Soldau, together with Upper Silesia and the formerly Austrian part of Polish Silesia. The rest of Polish territory would be "guaranteed". Poland would retain the town and port of Gdynia, together with a motor-road and a railway from Gdynia, through German territory to the Polish Hinterland as well as a free harbour in Danzig and the greater part of Poznania.

To Western Europe these peace terms would be explained as moderate and reasonable, seeing that they would only cost Poland between 6% and 7% of her present territory. But the possession of the whole "Corridor" would serve Germany as a guarantee of a permanent economic and political alliance with Poland. There would be

no need for an immediate German occupation of further Polish territory.

V.

As regards the West, Germany does not expect Great Britain and France to favour an aggressive war against her, especially if the hopes of Russian help prove illusory. Should the Western Powers nevertheless attack her, Germany's Western army will stand on the defensive until the Polish Army has been crushed. Then the main German forces would be switched over to the West, though there would be no air raids on England or France as long as those two countries should refrain from aerial attack upon Germany. Simultaneously, with her military concentration on the West, Germany would begin a propaganda peace-offensive in which she and the Axis would offer immediate peace to the Western Powers who, if they rejected the offer, would be made responsible for the devastation that would ensue. Special appeals would be issued to the Governments and peoples of Holland, Belgium and Switzerland. Meanwhile, the Italian army and air force would be concentrated in Libya, not for the purpose of an immediate attack upon Egypt, (since this might ruin the peace-offensive), but as a persuasive threat. Tension would be increased between Japan and the Western Powers in the Far East. Hitler believes that the success of this peace-offensive would cause him to be acclaimed as the saviour of the peace of the world.

The "combined strategy" of this method is based on the assumption that the German forces in the West could hold up a French attack long enough for the Polish army to be crushed and the main German forces to be switched over to the West. During this period Italy would remain "neutral" so as to prevent an Anglo-French naval attack upon her, and to awaken hopes in England and France that Italy might be detached from the Axis. There would be no "counter-attack" by the Axis in the West until the whole German army and air force had been concentrated against England and France.

Germany assumes further that Russia will remain neutral until and unless the Western Powers and the Axis are at death grips in a long struggle. Germany is not prepared to face a long struggle yet.

To sum up: Hitler and his helpers are convinced that under present conditions the Axis cannot win a long war against the West. Hence everything depends, in their eyes, upon a diplomatic and moral defeat of the West that shall preclude any further coalition between Western and Eastern Europe. Germany could then organize her "Imperial Space" up to the borders of Russia, and lay the foundations for her continental "Russian" World Empire. With this empire the Western Powers could make peace on condition that they give up all idea of political cooperation with Eastern Europe, including Russia. As compensation Germany would be prepared to "guarantee" the British and French Empires.

Those are the ultimate aims which guide Hitler and his helpers in their handling of the present conflict with Poland. Their motto is: "No war; at all events no world war".

The Third Reich aims at world empire without a world war.

PSF, Germany

August 27th 1939.

CONFIDENTIAL
My dear Mr. Secretary,

On instructions from the Foreign Office I enclose herein, for the confidential information of the President,
copies of telegrams received in London from His Majesty's Ambassador in Berlin reporting his recent conversations with Herr Hitler. I understand that these telegrams are also being shown to the United States Ambassador in London.

Believe me,

My dear Mr. Secretary,

Yours very sincerely,

(SGD) R.C. LINDSAY.

The Honourable

Cordell Hull,

Secretary of State of the
United States,

Washington, D.C.

UNCLASSIFIED
REGRADED

Telegram dated August 25th 1939,
from His Majesty's Ambassador
in Berlin.

Following is translation of text of verbal communication made to me by Hitler at my interview to-day.

By way of introduction the Führer declared that British Ambassador had given expression at close of last conversation to hope that after all an understanding between Germany and England might yet be possible. He, the Führer, had therefore turned things over in his mind once more and proposed to make a move as regards England which should be as decisive a move as that regarding Russia which had led to recent agreement. Yesterday's sitting in the House of Commons and speeches of Mr. Chamberlain and Lord Halifax had also moved the Führer to talk once more to the British Ambassador. Assertion that Germany aimed at conquest of world was ridiculous. British Empire embraced forty million square kilometers, Russia nineteen million square kilometers, America nine and a half million square kilometers whereas Germany embraced less than six hundred thousand square kilometers. It is quite clear who it is who desires to conquer the world.

The Führer makes the following communication to British Ambassador:

1. Polish acts of provocation have become intolerable. It makes no difference who is responsible. If Polish Government denies responsibility that only goes to show that it no longer itself possesses any influence over its subordinate military authorities.

In/

In preceding night there had been a further 21 new frontier incidents; on German side greatest discipline had been maintained. All incidents had been provoked from Polish side. Furthermore commercial aircraft had been shot at. If Polish Government stated it was not responsible it showed that it was no longer capable of controlling its own people.

2. Germany was in all circumstances determined to abolish these Macedonian conditions on her eastern frontier and what is more to do so in the interests of quiet and order but also in interests of European peace.

3. Problem of Danzig and Corridor must be solved. British Prime Minister had made a speech which was not in the least calculated to induce any change in German attitude. At most result of this speech could be a bloody and incalculable war between Germany and England. Such a war would be bloodier than that of 1914 to 1918. In contrast to last war Germany would no longer have to fight on two fronts. Agreement with Russia was unconditional and signified a change in the foreign policy of the Reich, destined to last a very long time. Russia and Germany would never again take up arms against each other. Apart from this the agreements reached with Russia would also render Germany secure economically for longest possible period of war.

The Führer had always wanted Anglo-German understanding. War between England and Germany could

at/

at best bring some profit to Germany but none at all to England.

The Führer declares that German-Polish problem must be solved and will be solved. He is however prepared and determined after the solution of this problem to approach England once more with a large comprehensive offer. He is a man of great decisions and in this case also he will be capable of being great in his action. He accepts the British Empire and is ready to pledge himself personally for its continued existence and to place power of German Reich at its disposal if his colonial demands which are limited and can be negotiated by peaceable methods are fulfilled and in this case he is prepared to fix the longest time limit.

His obligations towards Italy are not touched; in other words he does not demand that England give up her obligations towards France and similarly for his own part he cannot withdraw from his obligations towards Italy.

He also desires to stress irrevocable determination of Germany never again to enter into conflict with Russia. The Führer is ready to conclude agreements with England which as has already been emphasised would not only guarantee existence of British Empire in all circumstances as far as Germany is concerned but also if necessary assure British Empire of German assistance regardless of where such assistance should be necessary. The Führer then would also be ready to accept reasonable limitation/

limitation in armaments which corresponds to new political situation and which is economically tolerable. Finally the Führer renews his assurances that he is not interested in Western problems and that a frontier modification in West does not enter into consideration. Western fortifications which have been constructed at a cost of milliards were final Reich frontier on West.

If British Government would consider these ideas, a blessing for Germany and also for British Empire might be the result. If it rejects these then there will be war. In no case would Great Britain emerge stronger. Last war proves this.

The Führer repeats that he is a man of some corrupt groups upon this he himself is bound [sic] and that this was his last offer. Presumably after solution of the German Polish question he would approach British Government with an offer received from unlikely (here the code is obviously corrupt).

Telegram dated August 26th, 1939,
from His Majesty's Ambassador
at Berlin

In my immediately preceding telegram I give the text of verbal communication which Chancellor made to me this morning. He was absolutely calm and normal and spoke with great earnestness and apparent sincerity. Minister for Foreign Affairs was present but took practically no part in the conversation.

2. Herr Hitler began by saying that he had always and still desired good relations with Great Britain and his conscience compelled him to make this final effort to secure them. It was his last attempt. He suggested that I should fly to England myself in order to put the case to His Majesty's Government.

3. Conversation lasted an hour; my attitude being that Russian pact in no way altered standpoint of His Majesty's Government and that I must tell him quite honestly that Britain could not go back on her word to Poland and that I knew his offer would not be considered without a negotiated settlement of Polish question. Herr Hitler refused to guarantee this on the ground that Polish provocation might at any moment render German intervention to protect German nationals inevitable. I again and again returned to this point but always got the same answer.

4. I told Herr Hitler that I could not discuss the rights and wrongs of mutual provocation and incidents; that was for Polish Ambassador to discuss with Herr Von Ribbentrop and I suggested that he should do so. Herr Hitler's reply was that M. Lipski had seen General Goering

(a/

(a fact of which I was unaware) but had not been able to propose anything new.

5. I told Herr Hitler that we could not abandon Poland to her fate but I made entirely personal suggestion that M. Beck and Herr Von Ribbentrop should meet somewhere and discuss way out which alone might save Europe from war. Herr Hitler's reply was that he had invited M. Beck to come to talk matters over last March only to have his invitation flatly refused. Only intervention by Herr Von Ribbentrop in discussion was to confirm this and to say that M. Lipski who had had to convey this message was obliged to put it in other words to soften abruptness of it.

6. When I kept saying that His Majesty's Government could not in my opinion consider his offer unless it meant at the same time a peaceful settlement with Poland, Herr Hitler said "If you think it useless then do not send my offer at all". He admitted good intentions of M. Beck opposed to M. Lipski but said that they had no control over what was happening in Poland. Only signs of excitement on Hitler's part were when he referred to Polish persecutions. He mentioned that Ribbentrop on his return to Germany from Russia had had to fly from Konigsberg over the sea to avoid being shot at by Poles who fired at every German aeroplane that flew over normal routes across Polish territory. He also said that there had been another case of castration.

7. Among various points mentioned by Hitler were: That only winner of another European war would be/

be Japan; that he was by nature an artist not a politician, and that once Polish question was settled he would end his life as an artist and not as a warmonger; he did not want to turn Germany into nothing but a military barracks and he would only do so if forced to do so; that once Polish question was settled he himself would settle down; that he had no interest in making Britain break her word to Poland; that he had no wish to be small-minded in any settlement with Poland and that all he required for an agreement with her was a gesture from Britain to indicate that she would not be unreasonable.

8. After I had left, Ribbentrop sent Dr. Miseidt to Embassy with text of verbal statement and also a message from him to the effect that Hitler had always and still wished for an agreement with Britain, and begging me to urge His Majesty's Government to take this offer very seriously.

9. I subsequently received another message from Ribbentrop drawing my attention to incident at Bielitz reported in this afternoon's German press (see paragraph 3).

PSF (General)
P. V. M.

[Translation]

GERMAN EMBASSY

Washington, D. C., August 31, 1939.

Mr. Secretary of State:

By order of my Government, I wish to use your kind intermediary for the purpose of stating to the President of the United States that his messages of August 25 and 26 addressed to the German Fuehrer and Reich Chancellor have been greatly appreciated by the latter.

The German Fuehrer and Reich Chancellor has also, on his side, left nothing untried for the purpose of settling the dispute between Germany and Poland in a friendly manner. Even at the last hour he accepted an offer from the Government of Great Britain to mediate in this dispute. Owing to the attitude of the Polish Government, however, all these endeavors have remained without result.

Accept, Mr. Secretary of State, the expression of my highest consideration.

THOMSEN

His Excellency

The Secretary of State of the United States,
Cordell Hull,
Washington, D. C.

TRI : IML

CJ

This telegram must be
closely paraphrased be-
fore being communicated
to anyone. (br)

BERLIN

Dated September 1, 1939
Rec'd 12:11 p.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

RUSH.

990, September 1, 5 p.m.

The British Ambassador informs me that he has sent a
note to the Foreign Office here in support of the appeal
for peace by the Pope.

KIRK

ALC

PSF: *Herzman*

NC

PLAIN

BERLIN

Dated September 7, 1939

Rec'd 11:05 a.m.

Secretary of State

Washington

1115, September 7, 11 a.m.

The following communique issued by the German Army Command under date of September 6, 1939 was published in this morning's newspapers:

"The German troops entered Cracow without a struggle around noon on Wednesday. The Commanding General as well as the Commander of the Division rendered military honors at the tomb of Pilsudski. A guard of honor was mounted. The Vistula bridges are not destroyed.

"At 2 p.m. on Wednesday the road from Lask to Uniejow was crossed by our troops in the direction of Lodz.

"Bromberg has been taken by the German troops. The Netze was crossed in a southerly direction in the vicinity of Bromberg.

"The important rail and road junction of Kielce at the foot of the Lyaa Gora was occupied by our troops this morning.

"In the south Neu-Sandez has fallen into our hands".

KIRK

DDM

Memo from Walton Moore-State Dept-Sept 8, 1939

In re--repeal of the Neutrality Law and a few members of the House who might reverse their position.

In re-conference in his office, relating to the application of the law to the shipment of arms ammunition etc to Neutral countries, as for example China, via belligerent countries, as for example Burma and French-Indo China, and with some dissent it was agreed that such shipments are not prohibited if it can be ascertained from the British and French that they will not be stopped in transit to be used for belligerent purposes etc etc.

Attached is extract of Official Translation of the Speech delivered by Adolph Hitler before the German Reichstag- April 28, 1939.

Also attached is report on INCREASE OF GERMANY'S MILITARY STRENGTH AS A RESULT OF THE ANNEXATION OF AUSTRIA AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

See--Raw Speech Material folder-Drawer 4--1939

Given to the President in September --1939

Excerpt of report by Commodore Dewey (later Admiral) soon after the Battle of Manila (1898). Reported conversation with German Admiral Von Goetzen who prophesied that in fifteen years his country would start a Great War. Would move on Paris but real object would be to crush England and some months after take New York and Probably Washington and hold them for some time etc etc etc.

The above excerpt is in the Archives of the U.S. Navy Dept--Record 38, Volume 52, Page 558.

See: Navy folder-Drawer 1-1939

Germany
October 4, 1939

Letter to the President from Senator Josiah W. Bailey

Re-Germany placing Tobacco on the contraband list--statement
of President and Sec Wallace encouraged him but fears the
British Gov won't return to our market etc et c etc.
Attached are figures on tobacco-United Kingdom and France

See: Josiah W. Bailey-Senate folder-Drawer 2-1939

Henry

November 9, 1939.

Memo for the President from Cordell Hull

Attaches map and memo by Moffat on situation
relating to Belgium and Holland in event of possible
German invasion.

See: Cordell Hull folder-Drawer 1-1939